

Safe Work Procedure

Mar. 2010

Circular Saws

- Always wear CSA approved safety equipment, safety glasses or face shield, and appropriate hearing protection.
- Wear CSA approved respirator or dust masks when exposed to harmful or nuisance dusts.
- Always use a sharp blade that is designed for the work.
- Check the retracting lower blade guard frequently to ensure it works freely. It should enclose the teeth as completely as possible, and cover the unused portion of the blade when cutting.
- Allow the saw to attain full power before cutting.
- Ensure the retracting lower guard is fully returned before laying the saw down.
- Disconnect the power supply before adjusting or changing the blade.
- Keep all cords clear of the cutting area.
- Use two hands to operate the saw, one on the trigger switch, and one hand on the front knob handle.
- Select the correct blade for stock being cut and allow it to cut steadily, do not force it.
- Always, before use, check the saw for proper blade rotation.
- Secure work being cut to avoid movement.
- Do not hold or fix the retracting lower guard in the open position.
- Do not place hand under the shoe or guard of the saw.

Circular Saws - Continued –

- Do not over tighten the blade locking nut.
- Do not twist the saw to change cut or check alignment, do not use a saw that vibrates or appears unsafe in any way.
- Do not force the saw at any time during the cutting.
- Do not cut materials without first checking for obstructions or foreign objects, such as nails and screws.
- Do not carry the saw with finger on the trigger switch.
- Do not overreach, keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Do not rip stock without using a wedge that is clamped or nailed to the stock.

Circular saws are designed for right handed operation, left handed operation will demand more care to operate safely.