

Safe Work Procedure

Mar. 2010

Hand Tools – Hand Saws

- Wear CSA approved safety glasses or face shield.
- Select a saw of proper shape and size for the stock being used.
- Choose a saw handle that keeps your wrist in a natural position in the horizontal plane.
- Choose a saw with a handle opening of at least 12cm (5 in.) long and 6cm (2,5 in.) wide and slanted at a 15 degree angle.
- Check the stock being cut for nails, knots and other objects that may damage or buckle the saw.
- Start your cut by placing your hand beside the cut mark with your thumb upright and pressing against the blade. Start cut carefully and slowly to prevent blade from jumping. Pull upward until blade bites. Start with partial cut, then set saw at proper angle.
- Apply pressure on the down stroke only, hold stock being cut firmly in place.
- Use a helper, a supporting bench or vice to support long stock if required.
- Keep teeth and blades properly set, clean and protected when not in use.

Hacksaws

- Select correct blade for material being cut.
- Secure the blade with the teeth pointing forward.
- Keep blade rigid, and frame properly aligned, and keep saw blades clean and lightly oiled.
- Use strong, steady strokes, directed away from yourself.
- Use entire length of blade in each cutting stroke.
- Use light machine oil on the blade to keep it from overheating and breaking.
- Cut harder materials more slowly than soft materials, clamp thin, flat pieces requiring edge cutting