

Safe Work Procedure

Apr. 2010

Hand Tools – Wood Chisels

- Always wear CSA approved safety glasses or face shield.
- Use the right chisel for the job at hand.
- Choose smooth, rectangular handles that have no sharp edges and are attached firmly to the chisel.
- Check stock thoroughly for knots, staples, nails, screws or other foreign objects before chiseling.
- Clamp stock to prevent movement.
- Chip or cut away from yourself, keep your hands and body behind the cutting edge.
- Use a wooden or plastic mallet with a large striking face on all chisels; never hit chisels with a steel hammer or your hand.
- Place chisels safely with plastic protective caps on the cutting edges.
- Replace any chisel that is bent or shows dents, cracks, chips or excessive wear.
- Store chisels in a “ storage roll “, a cloth or plastic bag with slots for each chisel and keep them in a drawer or tray.
- Replace broken or splintered handles.
- Sharpen cutting edges as often as necessary.
- Hold the chisel firmly.
- Do not use a wood chisel as a pry bar or a wedge.
- Do not use a wood chisel on metal.
- Do not use an all steel chisel with a mushroomed face or a chipped edge. Redress with a file or whetstone.
- Do not use a grinder to redress heat-treated tools. Use a whetstone.
- Do not use a dull chisel.

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