

Safe Work Procedure

Oct. 2009

Table Saw – use on site

The on site table saw must have the guard in place when trimming and cutting most lumber pieces utilized on the job site, however due to some situations on site this may not be reasonable or practicable. When this situation happens on the site the following safe procedures will apply:

- Wear personal protection as required
- Supervisor or lead hand must be notified of the removal of the guard
- When cutting large pieces of lumber ensure fingers are well away from the blade, no more than 6” from the cutting edge.
- Have a person, spot where the blade is, and assist in the cutting; do not raise the blade any more than necessary to cut the piece.
- Use a push stick to push the piece through where the blade is closer than 6” from the operator or the assistant. **Not your hands.**
- When finished using the saw lower blade to ensure the safety of others, never leave the blade exposed, and replace the guard.
- Adhere to supervisor or lead hand instructions; do not cut pieces of lumber without their authorization or knowledge.

Although the practice of removing the guard and fence from the saw is not the preferred method of cutting a piece of lumber, the above procedures will be adhered to at the times when this cannot be accommodated, caution must be exercised. Two people will be present at time of operation, one operating the saw and one assisting with the operation (spotting).

Be aware at all times; know where the blade is and where your hands (fingers) are.