

# Powered hand tools

Protect yourself and others while working with powered hand tools



Powered hand tools are a constant in all types of workplaces, but they can pose a hazard to those using them and bystanders alike.

## Best practices:

- Choose tools that are right for the job, well maintained and fit your hand well
- Examine each tool for damage before use – do not use damaged tools
- Operate tools according to manufacturers' instructions
- Use power safely:
  - Always use protected circuits
  - Don't daisy chain or overload circuits
  - Avoid accidental starting – do not hold finger(s) on the switch while carrying
  - Do not use electric tools in damp/wet locations unless they are approved for that purpose
  - Unplug when not in use
  - Ensure the battery is in good condition and right for the tool
  - Avoid overcharging
- Ensure exposed moving parts are safeguarded
- Be sure nothing can become caught in moving parts – hair, loose clothing, jewelry, etc.
- Tether the tool if working at heights
- Utilize two hands to operate
- Be aware of your surroundings, including any hidden cables or pipes
- Ensure the medium being worked on is secure
- Make sure others are aware of your work, and block access from your work area if necessary
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including eye protection, hearing protection and appropriate footwear

## When you're finished with the tool:

- Tag out the tool if it did not work as expected
- Unplug and disconnect the equipment
- Secure unused tools
- Ensure the work area is cleaned up with everything in its proper place



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