

General Workshop Safety Rules

Machine Safety

1. New members are required to receive training from a supervisor before using any machine for the first time. *Note: This applies regardless of previous experience on the same or similar machine.*
2. Wear eye protection (e.g. safety glasses) when operating machines. Members who fail to wear eye protection when operating a machine do so at their own risk.
3. Do not operate a machine if you are the only person in the shed. At least one other member must be present.
4. Do not wear loose clothing, jewellery or other dangling objects that can be caught in a machine.
5. Tie back long hair so that it cannot be caught in a machine.
6. Wear hearing protection when operating noisy machines. (e.g. thicknesser and routers)
7. Switch off a machine after use and wait for it to stop before leaving it. Do not leave a machine that is switched on to conduct another task regardless of how short that task may be.
8. Always use a metal detector to check recycled timber for nails and screws before processing it on any machine.
9. Clean up the machine after use.
10. Always unplug the machine before conducting any maintenance operation or changing blades.
11. Do not remove safety guards unless this is essential to perform an operation. (Removing the blade guard on the Saw Stop to perform non through cuts and high angle mitre cuts are the only operations where the safety guard can be removed)
12. Never rush a job because others are waiting to use the machine.
13. Do not operate a machine if you are tired or under the influence of drugs, particularly prescription medications that affect your mental performance or have partaken of alcohol before arriving at the shed.

14. If you are uncertain as to how to conduct any operation on a machine request the assistance of a supervisor or other member with appropriate experience. Some operations may require a jig to be made before the operation can be carried out safely.

Health Safety Measures

1. Wear a dust mask when undertaking an activity that creates fine dust. e.g. hand or power sanding and lathe work.
2. Warn other nearby shed members if you are about to undertake an activity that creates a lot of dust.
3. When using an electrical extension cord, route the cord to minimise trip hazards. Do not route extension cords across high traffic areas.
4. Do not bring treated timber or MDF into the shed to be machined. (Sawdust from these materials is toxic)
5. Sweep up shavings after finishing a job. (Shavings can create a slipping hazard)
6. Return flammable liquids (e.g. turps, thinners, and oil based paints etc.) to the flammable liquids cupboard immediately after use.
7. Wear protective gloves when using polyurethane glue or epoxy adhesives.
8. When climbing the shed ladder seek the assistance of another member to hold the ladder and, if necessary, be ready to assist with the handling of heavy items.
9. Do not smoke in the shed