

THE RIGHT CUTTING TOOL FOR THE JOB



CUT-OFF GRINDER *



TORCHES †



METAL CIRCULAR SAW



PORTABLE BAND SAW



RECIPROCATING SAW

7 STEPS TO SAFE POWER TOOL USAGE

Standard Safe Uses:

Perimeter Guard (Safety Fence) Modification	✓			✓	✓
Cutting Off Anchor Bolts	✓	✓			
Cutting Welds on "Due Care" Removal	✓	✓			
Cutting Safety Cables	✓				
Cutting Tabs Off of Fence Posts	✓	✓			✓
Cutting Toe Plates	✓	✓		✓	✓
Cutting Rebar	✓	✓		✓	✓
Cutting Off Form Ties	✓				
General Demolition of Old Equipment, Trap Angles, Sole Plates, Tie Bars, & Angle Iron		✓		✓	✓
Coping Handrail or Channel	✓	✓			
Cutting Tool / Service Rail				✓	✓
Cutting Header Steel		✓			
Cutting Conveyor Rails		✓		✓	
Cutting Welds Off of Splice Plates		✓			
Custom Fabrication of Headers or Platforms		✓			
Cutting Metal Sheeting		✓	✓		
Cutting "I" Beams		✓	✓		
Cutting Checker Plate / Steel Decking		✓	✓		
Cutting Fiberglass Grating			✓		✓
Cutting / Notching Siding			✓		
Cutting Plastic & Metal Pipe				✓	✓
Cutting Unistrut, Angle, Flat Stock, & All-Thread	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cutting Lumber					✓
Cutting Bolts, Nails, & Misc. Fasteners		✓			✓

- GET THE RIGHT TOOL FOR THE JOB!** Make sure you know what work your foreman wants you to do and use this poster to help determine what tool to use.
- READ YOUR PRE-TASK PLAN!** Know what hazards exist and what preventive measures to take.
- MAKE SURE ALL SAFETY FEATURES ARE IN PLACE AND USED PROPERLY!** This would include such things as: guards, secondary handles, GFCI's, and flashback arrestors.
- INSPECT YOUR TOOL BEFORE USE!** Make sure it is in good condition with no visible defects that compromise the tool or cause an unsafe condition. Make sure the cord is not cut, frayed, or otherwise damaged as well.
- CHECK YOUR PPE!** This could include: hardhat, safety glasses, full-face shield, hearing protection, tight fitting leather or cut-resistant sleeves, fire resistant sleeves, cutting goggles, dark face shield, & leather gloves,
- SET UP YOUR WORK CORRECTLY!** In most cases, make sure your material is on a flat, level surface and secured to prevent movement. It is **NEVER** the safe way to hold the piece in one hand and the tool in the other.
- DON'T GET CAUGHT OFF-BALANCE!** In most cases, these tools should not be used while working from ladders. In all cases, make sure you are square to your work, on a flat, level, dry surface. If you have to lean or strain to reach your work, you are an accident waiting to happen. Reposition yourself, your lift, or the material so you are no longer in harm's way.

* Grinder **MUST** be equipped with a proper guard for the cutting wheel, a secondary handle, and a "momentary contact" paddle or trigger — no "positive on" switch

† Make sure you have the correct tip for the type gas you are using...for example, a mapp tip for mapp gas & an acetylene tip for acetylene.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Inspect grinder before each use.
- Get the right guard for the wheel you are using.
- "Ring Test" the cutting wheel to make sure it is not fractured.
- Always hold the grinder with two hands—one on the trigger and the other on the secondary handle.
- Position the guard so it is between you and the wheel and so it deflects the sparks & fragments away from you.
- Don't forget a fire watch, permit, & extinguishers.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Inspect torch, hoses, gauges, cylinders, & flashback arrestors prior to use.
- Make sure you have proper PPE before you cut...cutting goggles or dark face shield, long or protective sleeves, & leather gloves.
- Set up welding screens around your work area if you are at floor level.
- Always use a striker to light the torch...**NEVER** a lighter or hot piece of metal.
- Remove flammables / combustibles from the area. Use fire blankets to cover things that can't be moved.
- Don't forget a fire watch, permit, & extinguishers.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Always adjust the cutting depth to no more than 1/4" greater than the thickness of the work piece.
- Support large panels to minimize the risk of blade pinching & kickback.
- Do not use cutting oil.
- Do not use near flammable materials.
- Frequently check & empty the chip container.
- If blade is binding, release trigger & let the blade completely stop before removing from material.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Secure your work before cutting
- Use two hands to control the saw
- Unplug the saw before changing blades
- Keep the work rest firmly pressed against your work piece
- Do not force the tool—this only causes fatigue, increased wear, & reduced control

Safety Tips:

- Avoid use for long periods of time due to injuries caused by vibration
- Make sure your blade is straight, not broken, & in good condition—replace as needed.
- Use the correct blade for the material being cut.
- Always make sure the saw shoe is held firmly against the material being cut.