

Tools are vital to any construction trade and power tools are especially important. Unfortunately, electrical tools can pose significant hazards. Workers should be sure that they are familiar with the specific hazards of the tools they use including hazards such as:

Electrical shock      Cuts and amputations      Eye injuries

Injuries with tools often take place when workers fail to use them as intended, remove guards designed for their own safety, or forget to inspect them before using. Workers should be trained and reminded to follow safe work practices every time they use their tools.

**OSHA Standard 1926.300(a)** says that *all hand and power tools and similar equipment, whether furnished by the employer or the employee, shall be maintained in a safe condition.*

- Always inspect your electrical tools and extension cords before use.
- Inspect tools for any damage such as cut or frayed cords, cracks, or signs of electrical damage.
- Ensure that tools are not covered in paint, grease, or dirt that can create a hazard or hide a serious defect.

**OSHA Standard 1926.302(a)(1)** *Electric power operated tools shall either be of the approved double-insulated type or grounded in accordance with Subpart K of this part.*

- Only use electrical tools that have a proper grounding pin or designed with double insulated protection.

**OSHA Standard 1926.300(b)(1)** *When power operated tools are designed to accommodate guards, they shall be equipped with such guards when in use.*

- Inspect guards and safety devices before using the tool.
- Never remove or pin back guards on circular saws or other tools.
- Always use the proper attachments, handles, and grips provided by the manufacturer!

Not for resale or unauthorized redistribution. For all terms & conditions that apply, please visit [www.weeklysafety.com](http://www.weeklysafety.com).