



# Safety Tip of the Week

Your Safety Is Our Business®

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## Air Tool Safety

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Air tools are powered by compressed air and include chippers, drills, hammers, sanders, spray guns, air ratchets, grinders, nibblers, needle scalers, and many more.

### Handling Air Tools Safely:

- Permit only experienced and trained people to operate pneumatic tools.
- Inspect each tool before connecting it to the air supply:
  - Check tool safety mechanisms if applicable.
  - Tighten all screws and cylinder caps securely.
- Check for correct air supply and pressure before connecting a tool.
- Check that the tool is correctly and securely connected to the air supply hose, in good working order, and has a fully operating safety mechanism before using.
- Equip tools with a work-contacting element that limits the contact area to one that is as small as practical.
- Make sure that the mechanical linkage between work-contacting element and trigger is enclosed.
- Review the manufacturer's instructions before using a tool.
- Wear safety glasses, goggles, or a face shield (with safety glasses or goggles) and, where necessary, safety shoes or boots and hearing protection.
- Post warning signs where pneumatic tools are used. Set up screens or shields in areas where nearby workers may be exposed to flying fragments, chips, dust, and excessive noise.
- Ensure that the compressed air supplied to the tool is clean and dry.
- Dust, moisture, and corrosive fumes can damage a tool.
- An in-line regulator filter and lubricator increases tool life.
- Keep tools clean and lubricated, and maintain them according to the manufacturers' instructions.
- Use only the attachments that the manufacturer recommends for the tools you are using.
- Be careful to prevent hands, feet, or body from injury in case the machine slips or the tool breaks.
- Reduce physical fatigue by supporting heavy tools with a counter-balance wherever possible.



**Keep safety in mind...It will save your behind!!**



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