



# Safety Tip of the Week

## Power Tool Safety

Failing to properly use and maintain electric-powered tools causes thousands of cuts, punctures, pinches, amputations, and electrocutions each year. Tools can seriously injure or kill the user if not properly maintained or used.

Everyone who uses tools must learn to recognize the hazards associated with the different types of tools and the safety precautions necessary to prevent those hazards.



### Before You Use a Tool:

- Verify that it bears an electrical test label to indicate it successfully passed inspection and tests for electrical safety within the previous six months.
- Know the application, limitation, and potential hazards of the tool. Operate according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Inspect the cord for the proper type. Electric-powered tools must either have a three-wire cord with ground or be double insulated. Never use a plug that has its ground prong removed.
- Inspect the tool for frayed cords, loose or broken switches, and other obvious problems. Tools that fail this inspection must not be used. These must be removed from service and labeled "Do Not Use" until repairs are made.

With good training, proper maintenance, and safe work habits, power tools boost work efficiency while maintaining worker safety.

**Read the manufacturer instructions (manual) to understand the tool's proper applications, limitations, operation, and hazards, before using the tool.**

***DON'T BE A FOOL! INSPECT YOUR ELECTRICAL TOOLS!!***