

# Royal Safety Rules

## Be Alert & Aware! Trust your instincts!

Tools always have the potential to cause harm, but most accidents are preventable. It is the responsibility of the operator to do all possible to prevent injuries to self and others. Never use a tool if you are not fully alert and paying complete attention. Do not use tools if tired or on medications that impair awareness. ID potential distractions and eliminate them. Follow ALL the safety rules ALL the time, don't take short cuts. When something seems wrong, STOP, identify error and correct. Be thinking about what could go wrong and be ready to fix it.

## Get Training & Supervision

Do not use a tool until you have been approved to do so. Using any power tool requires proper training and supervision. Each member must recertify every year. It is a good idea when using a tool for the first time to review the manual's safety rules.

## Avoid Entanglements

Loose clothing, jewelry, watches, earphone cords, or anything else that can dangle can entangle you in the machinery. Remove anything that could catch before using tools.

## Gear Up

Use safety gear! Always wear safety glasses, ear protection, dust masks, back braces, gloves, etc. as needed. When working with power saws, you may want a pushing block or feather stick to extend reach and keep fingers out of the 'danger zone'.

## Check work area

Check work area for hazards: items that can drop, tangle or trip, water or dust that can cause a slip, people standing too close, bad lighting, etc. Correct problems before tool use. Have proper ventilation. Be sure you have correct electrical loads for tools, including extension cords.

## Use the right tool in the right way

Be sure to select the right tool for the job; for instance, don't use a screwdriver as a pry bar. Inspect tool before use for flaws like frayed cord, sticky buttons, cracked housings, etc. If you find a problem, don't use it until repaired. Be sure to carry properly: use two hands on larger tools, don't hold by cords, don't put sharp tools in a pocket. Match plugs between electrical tools and power sources – three prongs to three, not two. Always use safety features like guards or limiters. Keep cutting tools sharp (dull is dangerous). Always aim sharp tools away from yourself and others.

## Manage materials

Secure materials with clamps or tool guides before working on them to prevent shifting. Be careful of heat build-up when working with metals to prevent burns. Handle all supplies with care, be aware of any toxic or caustic properties, follow MSDS guidelines and know how to handle 'spills'.

## Be Prepared

Sometimes things go wrong despite our best efforts. Know where the first aid/emergency equipment is kept. Know how to use it. Stay calm and get help. Always report an injury to a safety officer.