

L. Safety Rules for Woodworking Machines

1. General

- a. All machines shall be constructed and maintained so that they are free of excessive noise and harmful vibration.
- b. All machines, except portable or mobile ones, shall be level and shall be securely fastened to the floor or other suitable foundation.
- c. Small units shall be secured to benches or stands of adequate strength and design.
- d. Tools shall be used only on machines for which they were designed.
- e. All safety devices shall be regularly checked for proper adjustment.
- f. Machines shall be securely locked and tagged out before cleaning.
- g. Loose clothing, long hair, jewelry, and gloves shall not be worn around rotating parts of machinery.
- h. Adjustments shall not be made while machines are running.
- i. All metal framework on electrically driven machines shall be grounded and shall comply with the National Electrical Code (NFPA-70) and applicable local codes.
- j. All machines shall have a cutoff device within reach of the normal operating position.
- k. Power controls and operating controls shall be located within easy reach and away from a hazardous area. They shall be positioned so the operator can remain at the regular work location.
- l. Each operating control shall be protected against unexpected or accidental activation.
- m. There shall be ample marked work space around each machine.

2. Housekeeping

- a. Good housekeeping shall be maintained to prevent buildup of dust, chips, sawdust, and scraps.
- b. The working surface of machines shall be kept clear of scrap and waste materials.

3. Guards

All belts, shafts, gears, and other moving parts shall be fully enclosed or be grounded in accordance with American National Standard B15.1, "Safety Standards for Mechanical Power Transmission Apparatus".

4. Illumination

The machines and the adjacent stock areas shall be adequately illuminated.

General work areas – 50 foot-candles;

Fine work – 100 or more foot-candles.

There should be no shadows or reflected glare.

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5. Inspection

- a. Machines shall be inspected before each use. Areas of inspection include operating controls, safety control, power drives and sharpness of cutting edges, and other parts to be used.
- b. Cutting edges and tools shall be kept sharp at all times. They shall also be properly adjusted and secured.
- c. All shops and machines shall be inspected on a regular basis. See “Inspection Schedules and Reports” for information on frequencies and inspection forms to use.

6. Personal Protective Equipment

- a. Individuals in the work area shall wear eye protection at all times.
- b. All workers shall wear close-fitting apparel and avoid loose clothing, neck ties, gloves, and jewelry.
- c. Hair nets or caps shall be worn over long hair to keep it away from moving parts. Beards shall be kept trimmed close to the face.
- d. Safety shoes shall be worn when handling heavy material or when there is potential for foot injury.

Note: See “Personal Protective Equipment” for more information.

7. Code References for Woodworking Machines

- a. OSHA 1910.213.
- b. American National Standard 01.1 and 0.1.a, “Safety Requirements for Woodworking Machinery”.