



Portable Power Tool (OSHA 29CFR 1926 Subpart I) & Flexible Cord/Cable Safety (OSHA 29CFR 1926 Subpart K)



Power tools have hazards that are of one of two types: power from the tool (energy) and danger from the tool's action (movement). To prevent injury from power tools, follow these simple precautions:

- Never carry a tool by the cord
- Never yank the cord to disconnect it from its power source
- Keep all cords away from heat, oil and sharp edges
- Keep all power tool cords off the ground when in wet locations
- Disconnect tools when not in use
- Disconnect tools before servicing
- Tag and don't use damaged tools
- Ensure that the cord has a 3-wire cord with a ground
- Keep tools in good condition & properly lubricated



Extension Cord Usage

Properly tag ("Do Not Use" or "Out of Service") and remove from the job site, if you spot:

- Shocking, sparking, overheating or smoking power tools
- Power tools with the grounding pin (3rd prong on a 3-prong cord) missing on the plug
- Exposed wiring on the cord or broken plugs

- Extension cord sets used with portable electric tools and appliances must be of the three-wire type and must be designed for hard or extra hard usage. Example - types S, ST, SO, STO or SJ, SJO, SJT, SJTO.
- Flexible cords used with temporary and portable lights must be designed for hard or extra hard usage.
- Extension cords must never be fastened with staples, hung from nails or suspended by wire.
- Working spaces, walkways and similar locations must be kept clear of cords so as not to create a hazard to other employees, subcontractors or general contractors.
- Cable should be protected against mechanical damage where it passes through floors or on the surface of walls

Common Cable Problems



Cable Damage

Flexible cords may be damaged by door or window edges, staples and fastenings, abrasion from adjacent materials, mechanical equipment or simply by aging. If the electrical conductors become exposed, there is a danger of shock, burns, or fire.



Strain Relief

To reduce hazards, flexible cables must connect to devices and to fittings in ways that prevent tension at joints and terminal screws.