



Bench Grinder Safety Guidelines

A bench grinder is a machine used to drive an abrasive wheel or wheels. To avoid accidents, the following operational guidelines will aid in injury prevention. Grinder accidents include injuries such as; contact abrasion and severe eye, face or head lacerations.

START WITH A RISK ASSESSMENT OF WORK AREA:

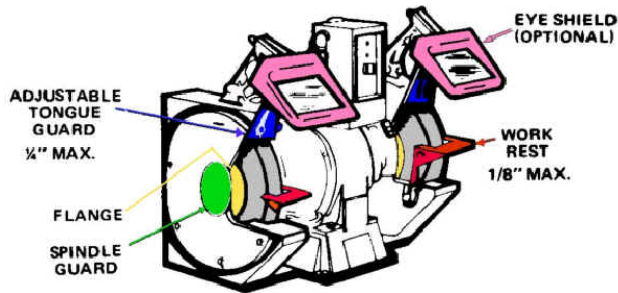
1. A two foot (2') perimeter around the grinder should be kept clear of debris that impairs traction or footing, to avoid slips and falls.
2. Safety glasses with side shields and a face shield should be worn. Wear hearing protection.
3. Remove loose fitting clothing, jewelry, and tie back long hair.
4. Give the work your undivided attention.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN TO WORK:

1. Before working with a bench grinder, make sure the tool and its accessories are in the proper working order. Follow the manufacturer directions and safety precautions included in the owner's operation manual.
2. "Ring Test" grinding wheels before mounting. Suspend the wheel on a pencil held horizontally through the center of the hole. Tap the wheel lightly with a plastic screwdriver handle, in spots 45 degrees from vertical. If it produces a clear ringing tone it is in good condition. If it sounds dull, REPLACE it.
3. Inspect the wheels for a hairline crack before using. **DO NOT USE A CRACKED WHEEL.**
4. Make sure the wheel housing guards are in place.
5. New grinding wheels should be balanced by dressing and truing to eliminate vibration.
6. Used wheels should be trued and dressed when worn out of round, or the surface face is clogged or worn smooth. This will provide a clean sharp grinding surface and will help in rebalancing the wheel. Dress the wheel on the face only. Dressing the side of the wheel would cause it to become too thin for safe use.
7. Don't operate a grinder unless it is securely mounted to the workbench.
8. Do not grind on the side of the wheel.



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OPERATIONAL SAFETY RULES:

1. Approach your work in the shop and on the bench grinder with a safe attitude.
2. Adjustments need to be made when the grinder is unplugged and stopped. Adjust work/tool rest 1/8" from the wheels and slightly below center and tongue guard (at the top of the wheel housing guards) no more than one-quarter inch (1/4)" away from the wheel. Re-adjust these as the wheels wear down to a smaller diameter.
3. Stand to one side of the wheel when turning on power. Allow the grinding wheel to run at full operating speed for one minute. **DO NOT** use a wheel that vibrates.
4. Bring the work object into contact with the grinding wheel slowly and smoothly avoiding impact or bumping motions.
5. Move the object being ground, back and forth across the face of the wheel only, as this prevents "ruts" or grooves from forming.
6. Never grind small stock. Do not attempt to grind or sharpen anything that cannot be adequately supported by the tool rest.
7. Do not touch the ground portion of the work piece until cooled.
8. Keep bystanders a safe distance away from the work area. Anyone entering the work area should wear personal protective equipment (PPE).
9. Turn off the grinder and wait until it comes to a complete stop. Never stick an object into the wheel to stop the grinder quicker. Let it stop on its own.

DESCRIPTION	YES	NO
Do side guards cover the spindle, nut and flange and 75% of the wheel?		
Is the work rest used and kept adjusted to within 1/8-inch of the wheel?		
Is the adjustable tongue guard on the top side of the grinder used and kept to within 1/4-inch of the wheel?		
Is the maximum RPM rating of each abrasive wheel compatible with the RPM rating of the grinder motor?		
Before new abrasive wheels are mounted, are they visually inspected and ring tested?		
Is cleanliness maintained around grinder?		
Are dust collectors or powered exhaust provided on grinders used in operations that produce large amounts of dust?		
Are goggles or face shields always worn when grinding?		
Are bench and pedestal grinders permanently mounted?		
Is each electrically operated grinder effectively grounded?		
Are fixed or permanently mounted grinders connected to their electrical supply system with approved conduit or other permanent method?		
Does each grinder have an individual on and off control switch?		

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