

TOOLBOX TALK

MACHINE GUARDING

This Toolbox Talk is based on OSHA's machine guarding standards. Guarding involves protecting ourselves from potentially hazardous areas of machines and equipment in our work environment.

Basic Terminology:

Parts of the Machine Requiring Guarding

- **Point of Operation:** Area where machine performs work on material, such as the blade on a power saw
- **Power Transmission Apparatus:** Belts, gears, flywheels, chains, pulleys, spindles, couplings, cams, machine components that transmit energy.
- **Other Moving Parts:** Reciprocating, rotating, traversing motions, auxiliary machine parts.

Types of Mechanical Motion that Must be Guarded:

- **Pinch Points:** Points at which it is possible to be caught between moving parts, or between moving and stationary parts of a piece of equipment.
- **Rotating:** Circular motion of shafts with a protrusion sticking out can catch clothing or pull a body part into point of operation
- **Reciprocating:** Back-and-forth or up-and-down motion that may trap or strike an employee between the moving object and a fixed object.
- **Traversing:** Movement in a straight, continuous line that may strike or catch an employee in a pinch or shear point between a moving and fixed object.
- **Cutting:** Action of sawing, boring, drilling, milling, slicing.
- **Punching:** When a machine moves a slide (ram) to stamp metal or other material.
- **Shearing:** Movement of a powered slide or knife during material trimming or cutting.
- **Bending:** When power is applied to a slide to draw or form materials into a different shape

Common Equipment That Requires Machine Guards:

Circular Saw	Reciprocating Saw	Band Saw	Jointer	Power Feed Planer
Shaper	Lathe	Sander	Drill Press	Grinding Wheels
Mechanical Power Press		Mortising Machine		

NEVER REMOVE OR DISABLE A MACHINE GUARD UNLESS THE EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN DE-ENERGIZED AND LOCKED OUT.

NEVER OPERATE EQUIPMENT WITH DAMAGED OR MISSING MACHINE GUARDS.

Group Discussion Topics:

- Inspect your equipment to ensure the guards are correctly positioned, intact and in place. Contact the Paramount Safety Department if you need further assistance.
- How could someone be injured by using these machines? How can this be prevented?



Retro-Fit all non compliant equipment



Table saws need to have proper guards