Lathe Rules & Safety

If you suspect a tool is not operating properly, contact mw-lathe@mit.edu immediately! Cell: 505-412-9433

NEVER touch anything spinning on the lathe or even perform an action that could put you at risk of doing so!



Additional Safety Equipment

- Hair Ties (and further hair restraints advisable)
- Chuck Guard

Hazards

- The chuck or part can GRAB your hands, clothes, or hair. This can be FATAL
- The floor can be SLIPPERY
- The chuck key, or a poorly clamped part can FLING out
- A hand tool (file) can STAB or GRAB your hand, or FLING out
- An unsupported part that is too long can WHIP

Dos

- Do tie back hair and beards
- Do use the chuck guard, and using collet is even better
- Do use lubrication disposable brushes/applicators
- Do stomp on the brake if you need to stop the lathe immediately

Don'ts

- Don't wear long sleeves, ties, hoodie strings, jewelry, or gloves
- Don't change gears while the spindle is rotating
- Don't run the lathe clockwise unless absolutely necessary
- Don't cut hazardous materials, wood, or composites
- Don't use setting C or E unless single-point threading
- Don't stand in-line with the chuck or a file
- Don't file at >325RPM, and never use a file without a handle
- Don't use steel wool, sand paper, or scotchbrite to deburr