

Circular Saw Rules & Safety

If you suspect the tool is not operating properly, contact mw-handtools@mit.edu



Additional Safety Equipment

- Hearing protection

Hazards

- Work can be **EJECTED** forward from the cut.
- Blades that catch can cause **KICKBACK**.
- Blades present a serious **CUT HAZARD**.

Dos

- **Do** practice proper workholding. Support large pieces.
- **Do** confirm that the blade guard retracts and spring backs properly before each use.
- **Do** set the blade depth before your cut. Rule of thumb: no more than one tooth should be exposed below the cut.
- **Do** use two hands to control the tool at all times.
- **Do** check that the areas in front of you and underneath the cut are clear before cutting.
- **Do** check the workpiece for fasteners or other obstructions.
- **Do** use a fence when possible.

Don'ts

- **Don't** stand directly behind the tool.
- **Don't** cut any material other than wood.
- **Don't** use any object to hold the blade guard open.
- **Don't** make rip cuts (with the grain of wood).