

# Safety Brief

FLAWLESS SAFETY PERFORMANCE IS A TEAM EFFORT

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August 2021



## Hand Tools

**Hand tools are an invaluable part of everyday life. But because they are useful and widely available, it's easy to forget that simple hand tools are a common source of work-related injury, particularly in the construction sector. Knowing hand tool safety will give you a better understanding of the health and safety issues and help you protect against the hazards.**

### Things to consider:

- Always wear the proper personal protective equipment depending on the risks associated with the work.
- Make sure the tool is designed for the task at hand. Using the wrong tool can cause an injury.
- Make sure the tool is in good condition and maintained according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Use absolute caution when swinging tools. Look around, behind, and above yourself first.
- Always watch the object you are cutting or striking.
- Keep hands and fingers away from contact with striking surfaces, cutting surfaces, jaws or hinges.
- Avoid glancing blows. Strike the work surface squarely with the striking face of the tool.
- Maintain a firm grip on the handle. Stand in a firm and well-balanced position to avoid losing balance.
- Make sure the work will not accidentally expose you to electrical wires and other sources of power.
- Never keep tools in your pocket or strapped behind your back.