

Bandsaw



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**wear
safety
glasses**



**get
a
spotter**

Before You Start

- Make sure the floor around the bandsaw is clean and safe
- Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is
- Set the blade guard to 1/4" (6 mm) above the wood
- Get your push sticks and push blocks ready
- Make sure the dust collection system is on
- Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

Keep your fingers off the line of the cut at all times

- Never leave the machine while it is running
- Feed the workpiece smoothly while holding the wood tightly against the table and fence
- Use a push stick to feed the wood past the blade
- Use relief cuts when cutting sharp curves - twisting a blade will damage it
- Stop the saw completely before adjusting it
- If the saw makes a squealing or clicking noise, turn it off and report it

Afterward

- Switch off the saw and drop the blade guard
- Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

- Cutting very small items
- Cutting wood that does not sit flat on the table (round dowels without a jig, for example)

Mitre Saw



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Before You Start

- Make sure the saw is clamped or bolted to a worktable
- Make sure the floor and worktable around the mitre saw are clean and safe
- Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is
- Check that all the guards are working and in place
- Make sure the dust collection system is on
- Lock the angle adjustment
- Do a dry run of the cut without power to check your accuracy
- Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

- Use clamps to cut wood shorter than 6" (150mm)**
- Keep fingers at least 6" (150 mm) away from the blade**
- Do not cut more than one piece at a time
- Do not cross arms when cutting
- Let the blade get up to full speed, then cut slowly
- Let the blade stop fully at the bottom of the cut before lifting

Afterward

- Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

- Cutting very small or metallic items (look for staples, nails, or screws)
- Cutting wood that does not sit flat on the table (round dowels without a jig, for example)
- Cutting wood along the grain

Drill Press



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**DO NOT
wear
gloves**

Before You Start

Make sure the floor around the drill press is clean and safe

Make sure you know where the stop button is

Remove the chuck key from the drill chuck

If using a large diameter bit, adjust the spindle speed to 400 rpm or less

Place scrap material under your work where the drill bit will exit

Clamp your work securely to the table or in the vise

Clamp long work to the left

Use the depth adjustment nut to ensure that the bit does not damage the press or vise

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

Long hair, loose clothing, and jewelry must be tied back or removed

Never leave the drill press while it is running

Turn off the drill press before making adjustments or clearing swarf

Feed at the right speed to keep cutting

Peck drill if needed

Beware of hair catching

Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Drill bit sizes

#6-7 screws = 5/64" predrill

#8-9 screws = 3/32" predrill

#10 screws = 7/64" predrill

#12 screws = 1/8" predrill

Stationary Sander



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Before You Start

Make sure the floor around the stationary sander is clean and safe

Make sure you know where the stop button is

Clean the belt or disc before using

Move the table so that it is close, but not touching, the sanding belt and disc

Report if the belt or disc is damaged or too worn

Turn on the dust collector

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Sanding

Long hair, loose clothing, and jewelry must be tied back or removed

Only one person can use this machine at once

Never leave the drill press while it is running

Place your material on the downward side of the belt or disc

Hold the material firmly to the table

Stand to the side of the belt or disc

Keep your fingers clear from the disc or belt

Let the sander stop completely before adjusting the tables

Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Turn off the dust collector

Too Dangerous

Sanding very small items

Sanding metal or sharpening tools

Table Saw



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Before You Start

Make sure the floor and tabletop are clean and safe

Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is

For regular through cuts: attach the splitter and blade guard

For dado or rabbet cuts: attach the riving knife

Make sure the dust collection system is on

Set the blade height to 1/4" (6 mm) above the work piece

Lock the fence OR mitre gauge

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

Keep fingers at least 5" (150 mm) away from the blade

Use push sticks and push blocks to guide the wood against the fence

Push the wood down onto the table at the same time as keeping it tight against the fence

Stand to the side in case of kickback

Let the blade get up to full speed, then cut slowly

Let the blade stop fully before adjusting the saw or cleaning off cuts or dust

Get your spotter to "tail out" when cutting long material

Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

Use the mitre gauge OR the fence. NEVER BOTH. Free hand cutting is insane.

Cutting very small or metallic items (look for staples, nails, or screws)

Cutting wood that does not sit flat on the table (round dowels without a jig, for example)

Jointer



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Before You Start

Mark the surfaces to be cut with chalk or crayon

Put the hollow of your wood face down

Make sure the floor and jointer tables are clean and safe

Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is

Make sure the blade guard works properly

Tighten all the locks

Make sure the dust collection system is on

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

If closer than 3", use push sticks, push blocks, and/or a sled to control the wood

Let the blade get up to full speed, then cut slowly

Shift your weight as you cut - don't lean over the cutterhead

Push the wood down onto the table at the same time as keeping it tight against the fence

Let the blade stop fully before adjusting the jointer or cleaning off sawdust

Get your spotter to "tail out" when cutting long material

Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

Jointing wood with metal items in it (look for staples, nails, or screws)

Cutting wood less than 3/8" thick

Cutting wood less than 10" long (but remember that the planer takes a minimum of 12")

Planer



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Before You Start

Mark the face to be cut with chalk or crayon

Make sure the floor around the planer is clean and safe

Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is

Find out who has the thickest board in the group

Set the planer to the thickest board by hanging it off the red hook and setting to 0"

Make sure the dust collection system is on

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

No really, don't forget your hearing protection.

Put the smoothest and flattest side of your wood face down

Let the blade get up to full speed before feeding the wood

Allow the planer to guide the wood through - do not force it

For wide boards, turn the wheel up 1/4 turn each time, for narrow boards use 1/2 turns

Let the blade stop fully before adjusting the planer or cleaning off sawdust

Get your spotter to "tail out" when cutting long material



Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

Planing wood with metal items in it (look for staples, nails, or screws)

Planing wood less than 3/8" thick or less than 12" long

Router/Router Table



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Before You Start

Make sure the floor around the router is clean and safe

Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is

Unplug the router before tightening the bit or adjusting the height

Make sure the router bit is sharp, clean, and has been installed tightly

Switch off the router before adjusting fences for an accurate, safe cut

Clamp your wood before freehand routing

Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

Let the router bit stop fully before cleaning off sawdust

Wear a shop coat to protect your clothing

Feed the router against the direction of the router bit

- on the router table, this means moving from right to left
- if you are freehand routing on the outside of your project, move from right to left
- if you are freehand routing on the inside of your project, move from left to right

Several shallow cuts is safer and does a better job than one deep cut

Let the blade get up to full speed before feeding the wood, then feed slowly

Use pushsticks, jigs, fixtures, and templates whenever possible

Afterward

Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state

Too dangerous

Routing wood with metal items in it (look for staples, nails, or screws)

Using material with defects - fill or repair first if necessary

Wood Lathe



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**wear a
face
shield**



**wear
protective
clothing**



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Before You Start

- Make sure the floor around the router is clean and safe
- Make sure you and your spotter know where the stop button is
- Set the safety guards into the correct position
- Cut your workpiece to rough dimensions on the bandsaw first
- Secure your workpiece to the faceplate, chuck, or between centres
- Rotate the wood by hand to make sure it clears the toolrest and lathe bed
- Make sure your cutting tools are sharp and in good condition
- Reduce the speed for the type of operation and diameter of workpiece
- Faulty equipment must not be used - report problems immediately

While Cutting

Tie back or remove long hair, loose clothing, or jewelry

- Never leave a running lathe
- Let the lathe stop completely before adjusting
- Keep the toolrest at the correct height and gap
- Readjust your speed to match the type of operation and size of your work
- Stop the lathe and remove all toolrests before sanding
- Several shallow cuts is safer and does a better job than one deep cut
- Let the blade get up to full speed before feeding the wood, then feed slowly
- Use pushsticks, jigs, fixtures, and templates whenever possible

Afterward

- Return all chisels and other tools to racks
- Remove all tool rests and place in rack
- Leave the machine in a safe, clean, and tidy state