

“JOBSITE SAFETY” ~ ILLUSTRATED SERIES

AN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH TRAINING SERIES FOR HIGH HAZARD INDUSTRIES

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TOOLS & EQUIPMENT: GUARDS

Hazardous moving parts of a power tool need to be safeguarded. For example, belts, gears, shafts, pulleys, sprockets, spindles, drums, fly wheels, chains, or reciprocating, rotating, or moving parts of equipment must be guarded if such parts are exposed to contact by employees.

Guards should be provided to protect the operator and others from point of operation, in-running nip points, rotating parts, and flying chips/sparks.



Safety guards must never be removed when a tool is being used. Portable circular saws must be equipped with guards. Upper guard must cover the entire blade of the saw. Retractable lower guard must cover the teeth of the saw, except when it contacts the work material. Lower guard must automatically return to covering position when the tools is withdrawn from the work.

The safeguards on the power tools in these photos have all been manipulated in some fashion. When guards are removed, it greatly increases the change for injury. Amputation is a serious OSHA incident and not only causes pain and struggle for the victim, but also has a great impact of the employer. Do not take shortcuts.

