Hand Tool Safety Training

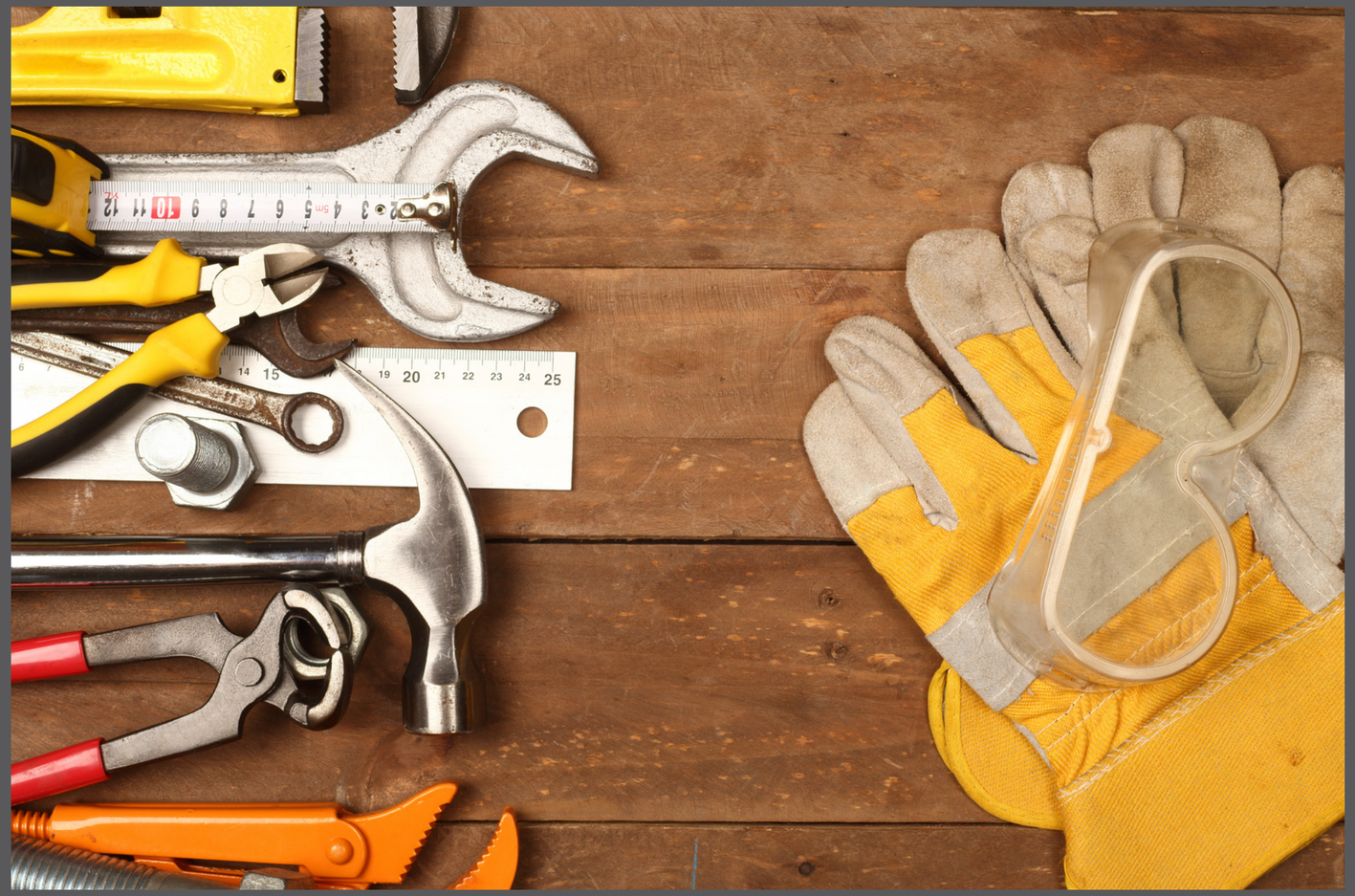
S.C. SWIDERSKI LLC

Session Objectivies

You'll be able to:

- Know the types of hand tools
- Identify hazards of hand tools
- Take precautions against injury
- Understand common safety practices for specific types of tools

Types of Hand Tools



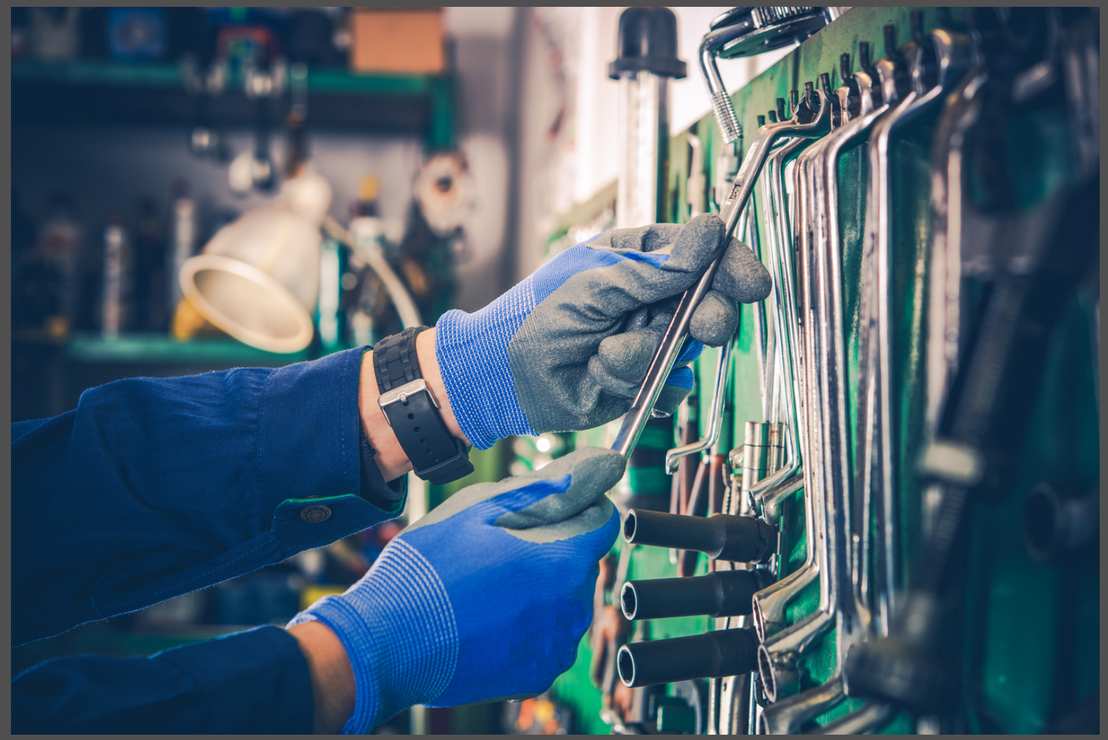
- Hand tools are nonpowered that require human force to function
  - Screwdrivers
  - Hammers
  - Chisels
  - Axes
  - Knives
  - Box cutters
  - Wrenches
  - Handsaws
  - Pliers

Hand Tool Hazards

- Misuse and improper maintenance
  - Using a screwdriver as a chisel and the tip breaks
  - Wooden handle is damaged, and the head of the hammer flies off
  - Wrench with jaws sprung slips and your hand strikes another object
  - Impact tool, such as a chisel, with a mushroomed head shatters into fragments
  - Cut from a knife or saw blade
  - Struck by flying debris
  - Puncture with a sharp tool
  - Abrasions and contusions
  - Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) from repetitive misuse of a tool

Selecting the Right Tool

- Consider the shape, size, and grip of the tool
- Consider the quality of the tool
- Use spark-resistant tools when working near flammable materials
- Use insulated tools when working near electricity



Consider Tool Ergonomics

- Hand tool use involves repetitive motion, awkward body positioning and the use of force which can lead to ergonomic injury.
- Select tools that have:
  - Handles with NO sharp edges or finger grooves
  - Handles coated with soft material
  - Handles with non-slip surfaces
- Find tools that:
  - Angle for working with straight wrist
  - Are designed to work in either hand
  - Spring-load to return to open position

Carrying Tools

- Use toolbox, belt, or pouch
- Never carry sharp tools in your pocket
- Hold sharp edges or points away from body
- Don't carry tools in your hand when climbing ladders
- Keep tools out of walkways and edges
- Hand tools to others, do not throw them

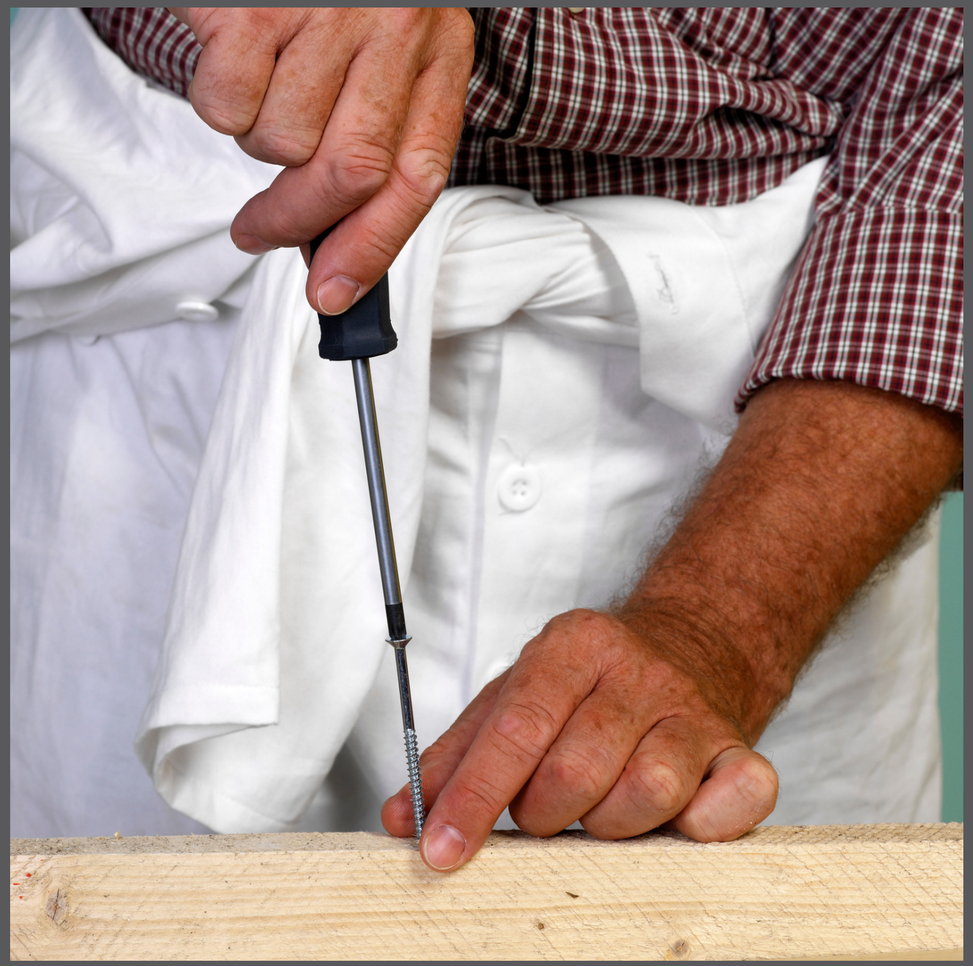
Maintaining and Repairing Your Tools

- Purchase quality tools
- Inspect for damaged edges and handles
- Keep edges and tips sharp
- Replace damaged handles
- Report broken or damaged tools
- Tag damaged tools "Do Not Use"

General Hand Tool Safety Practices

- Make sure observers are at a safe distance
- Clear the immediate work area
- Keep floors clean and dry
- Secure work with a vise, clamp, or other support
- Examine tools before each use
- Select the right size and type of tool for the job
- Do not use tools that are loose or cracked
- Do not put tools on the edge of tables
- After using a tool, clean it and put it back in its proper place
- Wear PPE appropriate for the work
- Keep cutting tools sharp and in good condition
- Do not wear loose clothes and jewelry
- Mark damaged tools clearly and notify your supervisor
- Do not work with oily or greasy hands

Screwdriver Safety

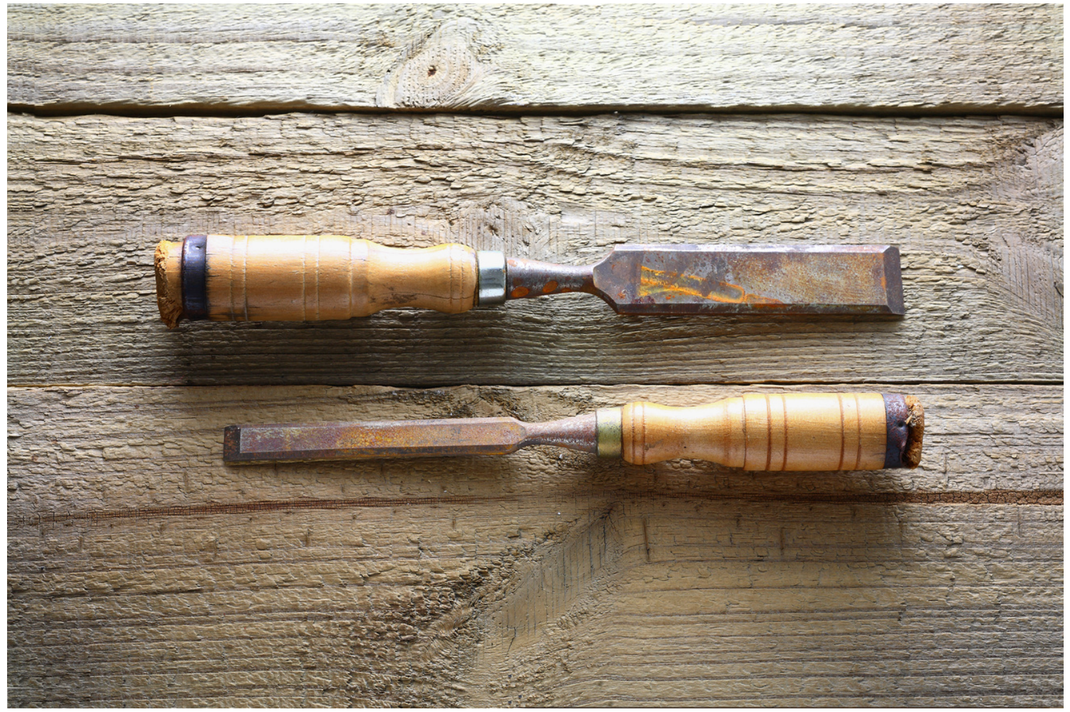


- Choose a flat head or Phillips
- Use correct size head
- Power grip handle should be 1 ¼” to 2” diameter
- Precision grip handles should be ¼” to ½” diameter
- Do not use as a pry bar or chisel

Hammer Safety

- Inspect the handle for damage
- Make sure hammer head is firmly attached to handle
- Hold with a power grip
- Keep other hand away

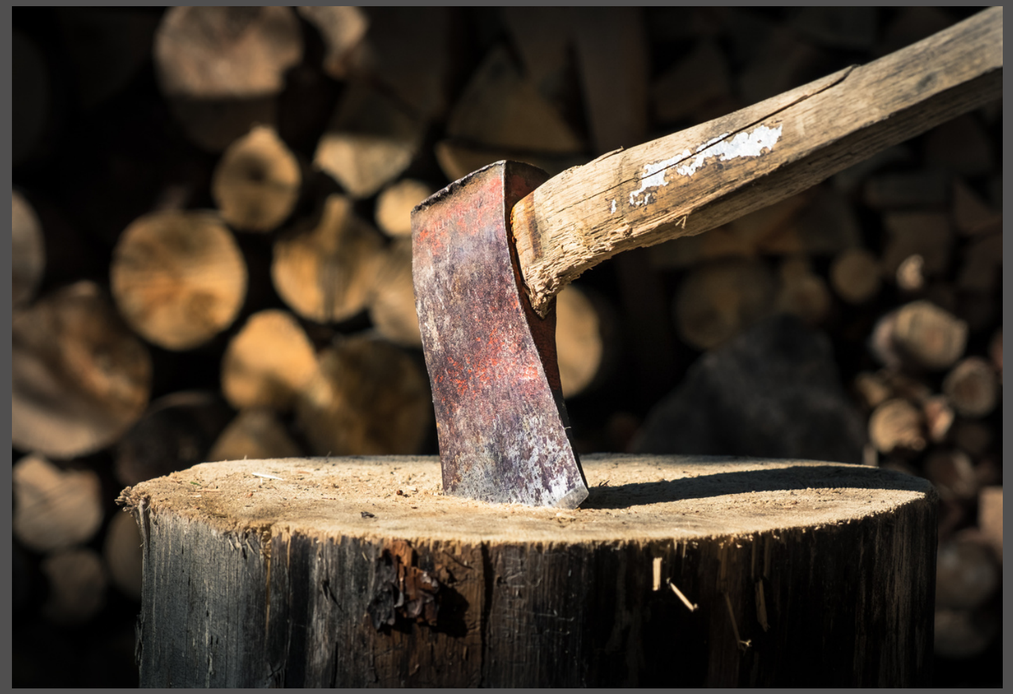
Chisel Safety



- Inspect the blade
- Inspect the handle
- Do not use if impact head is mushroomed
- Point blade away from your body

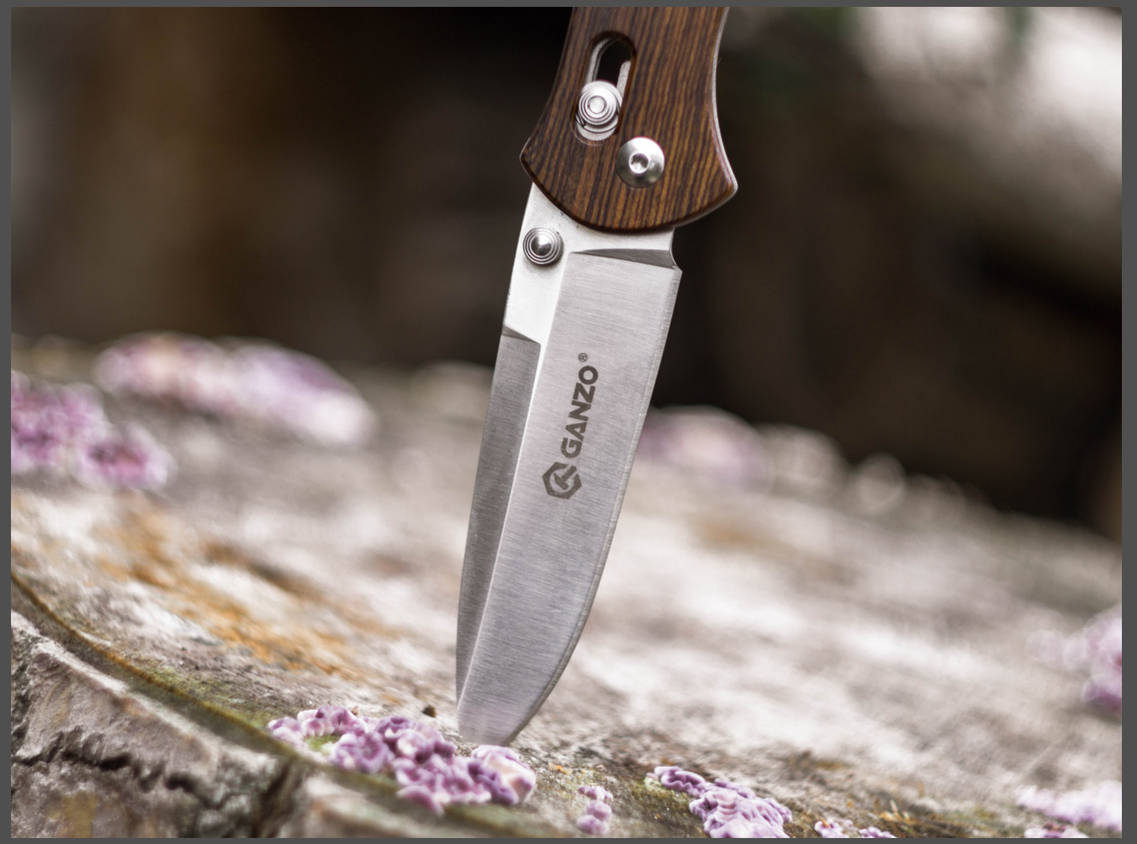
Axe Safety

- Inspect handle for damage
- Axe head is firmly attached to handle
- Use power grip
- Keep other hand away
- Use 2-handed axe properly
- Swinging motion will not strike your body



Knife Safety

- Inspect the blade
- Check the handle
- Carry knife safely
- Cut away from your body
- Wear cut-resistant gloves
- Secure object you are cutting

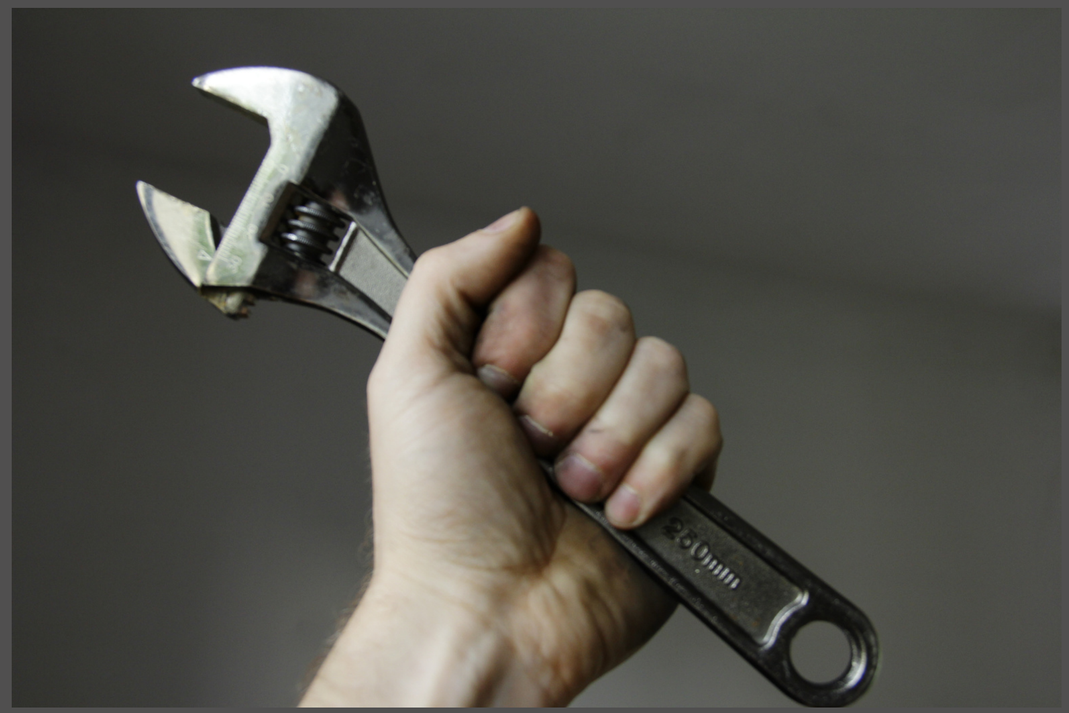


Box Cutter Safety

- Inspect the blade
- Check the handle
- Close the bladed when not in use
- Cut away from your body
- Wear cut-resistant gloves
- Secure object you are cutting

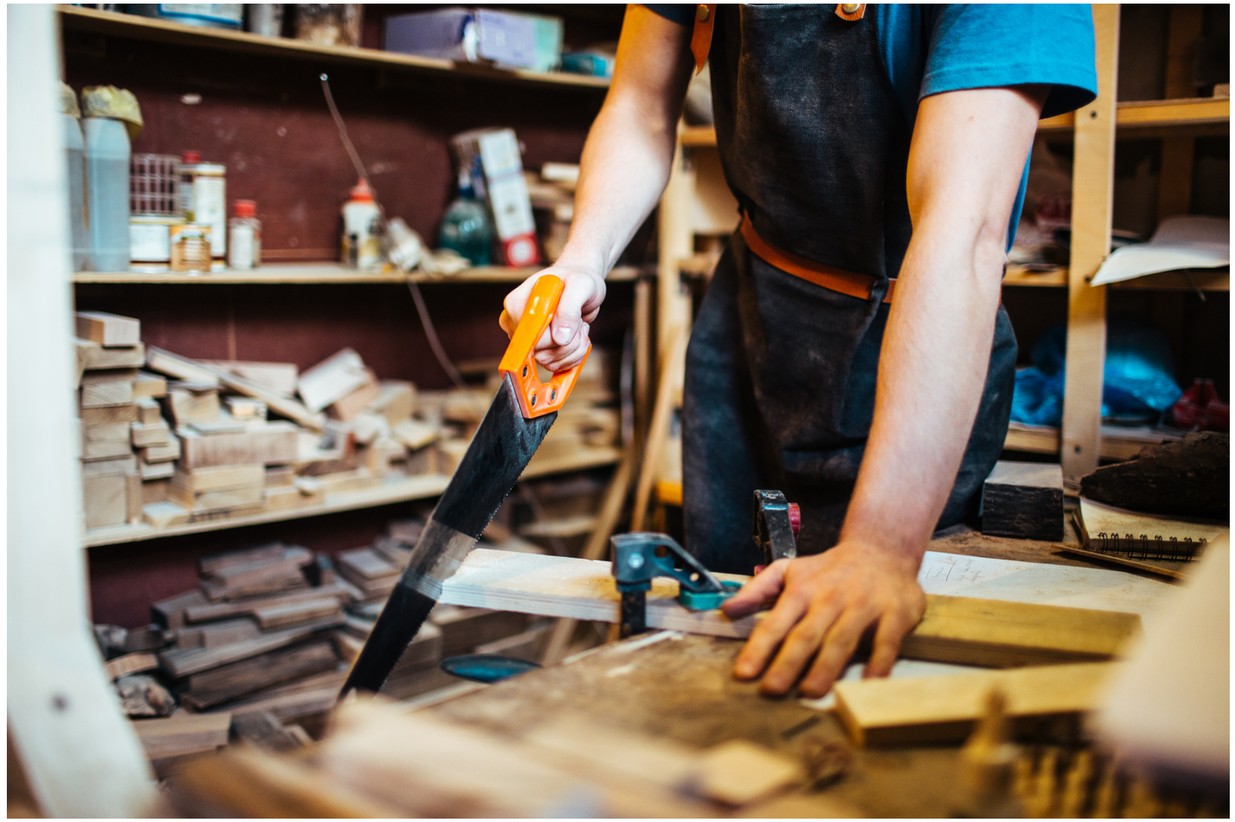
Wrench Safety

- Inspect wrench jaws
- Select non-slip, soft-coated handles
- Turn wrenches toward your body
- Clear area around wrench work
- Do not use a “cheater bar” for leverage

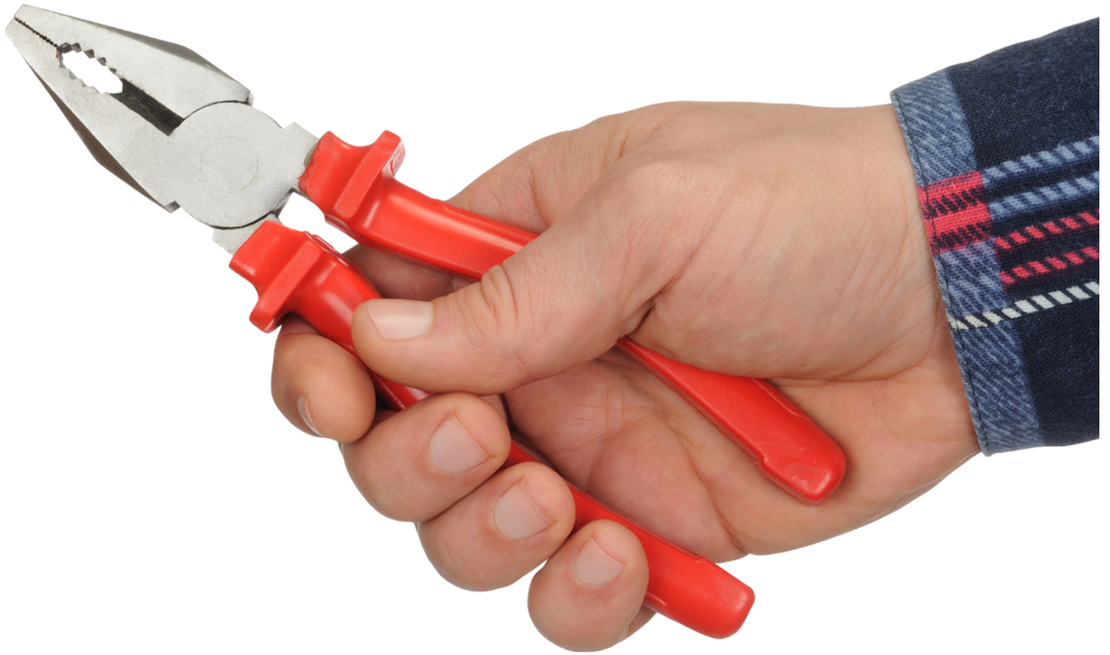


Handsaw Safety

- Make sure the blade is sharp
- Inspect the handle
- Secure the object in a vise or clamps
- Cut in a smooth motion
- Wear cut-resistant gloves



Pliers Safety



- Inspect for damage
- Use pliers with soft, non-slip grips
- Use locking pliers when continuous force is needed
- Select pliers that can be used in either hand

Key Points to Remember

- Maintain Tools
- Use the right tool for the job
- Examine each tool for damage before use
- Operate tools in accordinance with manufacturer's instructions
- Use proper PPE

TAKE THE QUIZ!

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