

Using the Right Tool

We have all likely been in a situation where we were in a hurry and grabbed the nearest tool or object to get the job done, even though it was not the proper tool needed. A wrench for a hammer, a screwdriver for a chisel, or a pocketknife for a utility knife, etc. Take the time to find the right tool for the job. In addition to using the right tool, keep tools and equipment in good repair and maintain sharp cutting blades.

- Periodically inspect tools for cracks, wear, and proper function.
- Repair or replace worn or cut power cords. Tools such as sockets and wrenches that are worn should be replaced to prevent slippage.
- Utilize tools with a properly designed ergonomic grip.
- Dull utility knives or saw blades take more effort and force to cut the material. This can only spell trouble if there is a slip or a kick back.
- Keep blades sharp! Don't use broken tools!
- When involved in material handling activities, take the time to put on a

good pair of leather gloves. Rough or sharp edges, burrs, protruding bolts, and wood splinters can all cause minor to severe lacerations and punctures without the use of gloves.

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