

## Toolbox Talk # 5

# HAND TOOLS

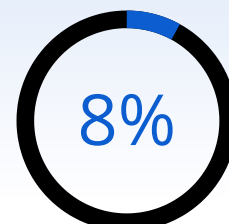


Company Name:	
Job Name:	
Date:	

### Key Points

1. **Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)**, such as safety glasses, gloves, and closed-toe shoes, to protect yourself from potential hand tool hazards.
2. **Inspect hand tools before each use** to ensure they are in good condition, without any cracks, loose handles, or damaged parts that could cause accidents.
3. **Use hand tools for their intended purpose** and avoid using them in ways that may lead to injury, such as using pliers as a hammer.
4. **Maintain a firm grip on hand tools** and ensure proper hand placement to avoid slipping or losing control during use.
5. **Store hand tools properly after use**, keeping them in designated areas or toolboxes to prevent accidental contact and maintain their condition for future use.
6. **Keep your workspace clean and organized** to reduce the risk of tripping or accidentally striking objects with hand tools.
7. **Avoid using hand tools in wet or slippery conditions** unless necessary, and ensure your hands are dry to maintain a secure grip.

Hand tool related incidents  
accounted for approximately 8% of  
all nonfatal occupational injuries



## Top 5 hand tool injuries...

1. **Cuts and Lacerations:** Caused by sharp edges or improper tool handling.
2. **Puncture Wounds:** Result from using tools like screwdrivers improperly.
3. **Crushing Injuries:** Occur when hands are caught between objects or tools.
4. **Strains and Sprains:** Caused by overexertion or repetitive tool use.
5. **Eye Injuries:** Flying debris from cutting, hammering, or chiseling.



1. Is this the right tool for the job?
2. Have I inspected the tool for damage or defects?
3. Am I wearing the necessary PPE for this task?
4. Is my work area clean and free of obstructions?

*"Use hand tools  
with care,  
or fingers may  
not be there."*

## Summary

Hand tool safety is crucial because using tools improperly can lead to injuries like cuts, bruises, or even more severe harm. Proper usage and precautions minimize risks, ensuring your well-being while working.



OSHA's regulations for hand tools are outlined in 29 CFR 1910.242(a) under the General Industry Standards. This regulation states:

**"Each employer shall be responsible for the safe condition of tools and equipment used by employees, including tools and equipment which may be furnished by employees."**

This means employers must ensure that all hand tools—whether provided by the employer or the worker—are inspected regularly, maintained in safe working condition, and removed from service if found defective. Unsafe hand tools, such as those with loose handles, cracked metal parts, or missing components, are strictly prohibited as they can lead to workplace injuries.



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ATTENDEES

Print Name:	Signature:

Additional Comments: