

TAILGATE SAFETY

**SAFETY
FIRST**

The FGI believes it is important to always put safety first.

Our Tailgate Safety Program is a safety training resource for construction and other high hazard industries.

Safety training for the job site & the office!

Hand & Power Tool Safety – July 2026 – FGI Safety Tip

Hand and power tools are used every day on the job. When tools are damaged, misused, or poorly maintained, they can cause serious injuries. Safe handling, proper inspections, and reporting issues right away prevent cuts, shocks, eye injuries, amputations, and other avoidable incidents.

COMMON HAND & POWER TOOL HAZARDS

1. DAMAGED TOOLS & CORDS



- Frayed or exposed electrical cords
- Cracked handles or loose parts
- Damaged insulation or plugs

Prevention

- Inspect before every use
- Remove damaged tools from service
- Tag and report defective equipment

2. MISSING GUARDS & SAFETY FEATURES



- Removed blade guards
- Disabled safety switches
- Missing shields

Prevention

- Never bypass safety devices
- Verify guards are securely in place before operation

3. IMPROPER TOOL USE



- Using the wrong tool for the task
- Poor footing or unstable position
- Improper extension cord use

Prevention

- Select the correct tool
- Maintain stable footing
- Use extension cords only when appropriate

4. HOUSEKEEPING HAZARDS



- Loose materials
- Tools left in walkways
- Cords creating trip hazards

Prevention

- Keep work areas clean
- Route cords away from traffic
- Store tools properly after use



WARNING SIGNS – STOP AND INSPECT

If you notice any of the following, **STOP using** the tool immediately:

- Cracked handles or loose parts
- Exposed wires or damaged cords
- Sparks, unusual smells, or overheating
- Missing guards or shields
- Tools not cutting or functioning correctly

SAFE WORK PRACTICES



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Inspect every tool before use.
- Wear required PPE.
- Verify guards and safety devices are in place.
- Remove defective equipment from service.



WHILE WORKING

- Use the correct tool for the job.
- Keep cords away from water, sharp edges, and welding operations.
- Disconnect power before changing blades or bits.
- Maintain a clean work area.



AFTER USE

- Clean and properly store tools.
- Report damaged equipment immediately.
- Replace worn or defective tools before the next use.



Inspect cords for damage.



Inspect tools before every use.



Wear proper PPE and work safely.



Inspect tools before every use. Use them correctly. Report damage immediately.

SAFE TOOLS = SAFE WORK

Protect the Crew. Protect the Project. Safety Starts With You.

FGI

Safety tips are presented monthly by FGI members & industry experts

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