

Bandsaw safety checklist



Reminders for trained, authorized vertical bandsaw operators

Follow the machine manual and your site's approved procedure. Before this checklist is used, a supervisor must check that it is suitable for the machine and the work.

Before starting

- ☐ **1. Only operate if trained and authorized.** Your training and authorization must cover this machine, the material and the cut.
- ☐ **2. Know the procedure.** Check which cuts are permitted, how to stop the machine and what to do if something goes wrong.
- ☐ **3. Secure clothing and hair.** Remove jewelry and wear the personal protective equipment (PPE) required for the task.
- ☐ **4. Check whether gloves are required.** Follow the rules for this machine and task. If instructions conflict, ask your supervisor before starting. Cut-resistant gloves do not make blade contact safe.
- ☐ **5. Clear the work area.** Keep the floor and access routes clear. Make sure you can see the cutting area clearly and have suitable supports for the workpiece.
- ☐ **6. Check the machine and blade.** Carry out the required inspection with the machine stopped and isolated where required. Report damaged, dull or unsuitable blades and any other defects.
- ☐ **7. Check guards and enclosures.** Make sure they are fitted and secure. Never bypass an interlock or other safety device.
- ☐ **8. Adjust the upper guard and guide.** Follow the manual and leave only the blade needed for the cut exposed. Stop the machine and isolate it as required before adjusting.
- ☐ **9. Have push tools and supports ready.** Use the tools and fixtures specified for the cut. Do not start a cut you cannot control safely.

- ☐ **10. Check stops and safety devices.** Follow the manufacturer's test procedure. Keep people clear and never use a hand or other body part to test a safety device.

While cutting

- ☐ **11. Keep hands out of the cutting path.** Plan where both hands will be throughout the cut, including as it finishes. Use the specified push tools and fixtures.
- ☐ **12. Control the workpiece.** Keep it supported and follow the specified feed rate. Stop if it binds, moves unexpectedly or causes unusual noise or vibration.
- ☐ **13. Wait until movement has stopped.** Stop before measuring or removing offcuts. For trapped material, follow the machine's approved jam-clearing procedure.
- ☐ **14. Stay with the machine.** Watch the cut. Before leaving, stop the machine and wait for all movement to stop.

Cleaning, jams and faults

- ☐ **15. Follow the procedure for the task.** Clear jams only after the blade has stopped, using the approved method. Follow the machine's procedures for blade changes, cleaning and servicing, including any required energy controls.
- ☐ **16. Take faulty equipment out of use.** Tell your supervisor and follow the site's procedure to prevent restart. Report near-misses and injuries too.

STOP if a guard is missing, a check fails or you are unsure how to proceed. Report the problem. Do not restart until it has been resolved and restart is authorized.

Site / machine: _____ Approved procedure: _____

Use notice: General guidance only. This checklist does not replace the machine manual, risk assessment, training or your site's approved procedure. It does not guarantee safety or legal compliance. Site management must check the requirements that apply and approve its use.