



Table Saw

Safety Rules

Table saws are designed to rip, cross cut, bevel, and cut angles with precision. To avoid accidents, the following operational safety rules must be observed by everyone working on the KCWG Table Saw. Failure to follow the safety rules will result in a loss of shop privileges.

Top 10 Table Safety Rules from Mark Adams:

1. Follow the 3" rule from the blade; always keep fingers 3" from the blade.
2. Never free hand on the table saw.
3. Check alignment of the splitter, fence, and miter gauge.
4. Be aware of your position at the saw.
5. Always use your splitter and guard on through cuts.
6. Make adjustments when the machine is off.
7. Never clear small pieces while the blade is moving.
8. Do not over reach behind or over the blade unless the blade has stopped turning.
9. Never use the miter gauge and fence together while cross cutting without a stop block.
10. Keep the blade only 1/8" to 1/4" above the stock.

Start with a Risk Assessment to ensure a safe work area:

1. A two foot perimeter around the saw should be kept clear of people, debris and sawdust that impair traction or footing to avoid slips and falls.
2. Safety glasses with side shields or a face shield must be worn. Hearing protection should be worn.
3. Secure loose fitting clothing, jewelry, and tie back long hair while operating a table saw.
4. Give the work your undivided attention.

Operational Safety Rules:

1. Approach your work in the KCWG Shop and on the table saw with a safe attitude!

2. Always disconnect the power before changing the blade or performing any other maintenance operation.
3. Make sure that the blade is turning free before you turn on the power: this is especially helpful after you make changes or adjustments.
4. Always loosen and tighten the wheel nuts before and after adjusting the blade. Be sure that the locking nut on the blade-tilting hand wheel is secure for angle cuts so the blade does not move.
5. Never operate a table saw with the throat insert removed. Use zero clearance inserts when appropriate.
6. The Biesemeyer Blade Guard must be used for all cross cut and rip operations, unless using the crosscut sled (which has it's own guard). Adjust prior to cutting.
7. When cutting across the grain of the stock use a miter gauge or a crosscut sled.
8. When cutting with the crosscut sled, make sure the outfeed table guide slots are in alignment with the sled.
9. Use a stop block clamped to the rip fence when you crosscut multiple pieces to short lengths.
10. When ripping, use the kerf splitter.
11. When ripping, keep the area in back of the saw free of people in case of kickback.
12. When ripping long stock, make sure that you have help, use the outfeed table, or use a stand to support the work.
13. Use a push stick to rip stock that is 3" or less in width.
14. Stand comfortably, with your feet far enough apart for good balance.
15. Position your body to the left of the blade, so that it is NOT in line with the blade or kickback alley.
16. Make sure that the blade has stopped turning before you remove scrap pieces from the table or adjust for another operation.