

All power tools can be dangerous if both general and tool specific safety instructions are not followed carefully. General safety instructions apply to all power tools, both corded and cordless.

## Start with a Safe Work Area



Keep your work area clean and well lit. Cluttered benches and dark areas invite accidents.



Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, near flammable liquids, gases, or dust. Power tools create sparks, which may ignite the dust or fumes.

- Keep bystanders, children, and visitors away when using a power tool. Distractions can cause you to lose control.



## Electricity can be Dangerous

Grounded tools (three pronged cords) must be plugged into a properly grounded installed outlet. Never remove or cut off the grounding prong or modify the plug in any way. Do not use any adapter plugs.



Double Insulated tools have a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other.) This plug will fit into an outlet only one way. Do not change the plug in any way.



Do not use AC only rated tools with a DC power supply.



Store battery packs away from other metal objects like paper clips, coins, keys, nails, screws, or other small metal objects. These things can make a connection from one terminal to the other, shorting the battery terminals together and causing burns or fire.



- When using a power tool, don't touch grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators. There is a higher risk of electric shock if your body is grounded.

## GFCI

In damp locations, only plug your tool into a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI). If the work area does not have a permanent GFCI on the outlet, use a plug-in GFCI. Wear rubber gloves and footwear.



Don't use or leave power tools in the rain or wet conditions.



Do not abuse the cord, carry the tool by its cord, or pull the cord to unplug it. Keep the cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts. Replace damaged cords immediately.



Always hold the tool by the insulated gripping surfaces. Contact with hidden wiring or its own cord will make exposed metal parts of the tool "live" and shock the operator.

## Rules about Extension Cords

- When using a power tool outside, use an extension cord marked for outdoor use with "W-A" or "W". These cords are made for outdoor use.
- Extension cords with 3-prong grounding plugs must be plugged into 3-prong outlets when using grounded tools.
- Replace damaged or worn cords immediately.

## Amps

The wire gauge and length of the extension cord must be able to handle the amps of the tool. Find the Amps (A) on the tool's nameplate and use the chart to determine the necessary wire gauge for your extension cord length.

Nameplate Amps	Extension Cord Gauge			
	Cord Length in Feet			
	25'	50'	100'	150'
0-6	18	16	16	14
6-10	18	16	14	12
10-12	16	16	14	12
12-16	14	12	Not Recommended	

## Good Personal Safety is a Must

Following good safety practices when using all power tools is a must. Make a habit of including safety in all of your activities.



Always read and understand the tool's operator's manual, tool markings and the instructions packaged with the accessory before starting any work.

- Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when using a power tool.



Do not use tools when you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication.

- Dress right. Do not wear gloves, loose clothes or jewelry. Contain long hair. Loose clothes, gloves, jewelry, or long hair can be caught in moving parts.
- Keep handles dry, clean and free from oil and grease.
- Be sure the power tool's switch is OFF before plugging it in or inserting a battery pack. Do not carry tools with your finger on the switch.



Remove adjusting keys and wrenches before turning the tool ON.

- Always keep a firm footing when using power tools. Be sure you have balance and control before you start the job.



Use safety equipment. Always wear eye protection. A dust mask, non-skid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection must be used when needed. The reference to “safety goggles” or “safety glasses” in product specific sections provides potential options - always refer to the tool’s operator’s manual for the specific eye protection recommended, which should be marked as complying with current national standards.

- Unplug tool/remove battery before changing accessories.



Keep hands away from rotating or moving parts.

### Do the Job Safely

- Use the power tool accessories only for the jobs for which they were designed.



Secure and support the workpiece. Use clamps and a stable work surface. Do not hold the work by hand or against your body.

- Keep guards in place and working properly.
- Do not force the tool. Use the right tool for your job. It will do the job better and safer.
- Use only accessories recommended by the tool manufacturer. Accessories that may be suitable for one tool may become hazardous when used on another tool.



Do not touch the drill bit, blade, cutter or the workpiece immediately after operation; they may be very hot and may burn you.

- If a method of dust collection is available with the power tool, it should be used to reduce the risk of dust-related hazards.

### Maintenance Keeps Tools Working Safely and Effectively

- Do not use a tool if the switch does not turn it on and off. It must be repaired.



Look at the tool before using it. Are moving parts misaligned or binding? Is anything broken? Damaged tools must be fixed before using them. Develop a maintenance schedule for your tool.

- Maintain accessories carefully. Keep blades and bits sharp and clean.
- Take your tool to be serviced by qualified repair people. Service or maintenance performed by unqualified personnel could result in a risk of injury. For example: internal wires may be misplaced or pinched, safety guard return springs may be improperly mounted.
- When servicing a tool, use only identical replacement parts. Follow instructions regarding maintenance in the tool’s operator’s manual. Use of unauthorized parts or failure to follow the maintenance instructions may create a risk of electric shock or injury.
- Clean and lubricate a tool only as directed in its operator’s manuals. Certain cleaning agents such as gasoline, carbon tetrachloride, ammonia, etc. may damage plastic parts.
- Maintain labels and nameplates. These carry important information. If unreadable or missing, contact the manufacturer for a replacement.

### When Done, Store the Tools out of Harm’s Way



To avoid accidental starting, unplug the cord, remove batteries or lock off the switch when the tool is not being used, when changing accessories, and when adjusting or cleaning tools.

- Keep tools out of the reach of children and people unfamiliar with the tools.

## Cordless

Cordless tools get their electrical power from batteries. They demand the same respect that corded tools demand. Remember, cordless tools are very capable of causing injury if all safety precautions are not followed. Cordless tools come in many types; read and understand the section of this booklet for the type of cordless tool you are using, as well as the operator's manual provided with the tool.

### Good Personal Safety is a Must

Following good safety practices when using cordless tools is a must. Make a habit of including safety in all your activities.



Always read and understand the tool's operator's manual, tool markings and the instructions packaged with the accessory before starting any work.



Cordless tools may create sparks, so do not use them in an explosive atmosphere, near flammable liquids, gases or dust.

- To avoid accidental starting, remove batteries or lock off the switch when the tool is not being used, when changing accessories, and when adjusting or cleaning tools.
- Keep hands away from rotating or moving parts.
- Broken or abused battery packs can leak chemicals that can cause irritation or burns. If you come into contact with these chemicals, flush the area with water. If it contacts the eyes, flush with water and seek medical help.



Batteries may vent gas that can explode near a source of ignition, like a pilot light. Never use any cordless tool in the presence of open flame.



Do not place battery packs near fire or heat. The battery packs could explode.

### Choose the Right Battery Pack for the Tool

Use cordless tools only with their recommended battery packs. Other battery packs may create a risk of fire, burns, and explosions.

### Charge Battery Packs Safely

- Charge battery packs only with their recommended chargers.



Charge in a dry location.

- Do not charge near combustible materials.
- Do not use a charger or battery pack if it has been hit, dropped or damaged.
- Do not take apart the charger or battery pack. Take it to an authorized service center for all repairs.
- Keep tools, battery packs and chargers out of the reach of children and people unfamiliar with the tools.

### Maintain and Store Battery Packs Safely



Clean the contacts on the battery pack and tool with a pencil eraser if the tool isn't working at full power with a fully charged battery pack.

- Take the tool, charger, and battery to an authorized service center for all repairs. Do not attempt to repair them yourself.



Store battery packs away from other metal objects like paper clips, coins, keys, nails, screws, or other small metal objects. These things can make a connection from one terminal to the other, shorting the battery terminals together and causing burns or fire.



Store the battery pack away from extreme temperature conditions.

### Disposing of Battery Packs

Properly dispose of battery packs to help protect our environment.



Battery pack chemistries can be dangerous to the environment under certain conditions. Recycle or dispose of properly.



Refer to the instructions included with your battery pack for proper disposal/recycling of the battery packs. Local, state, or federal laws may prohibit disposal of certain batteries in ordinary trash.

- Place electrical tape over the battery pack's terminals before disposing/recycling.



Call 1-800-BATTERY for disposal information. RBRC™ Battery Recycling Seal on a battery pack indicates that the tool manufacturer has arranged for the recycling of that battery pack with the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). At the end of your battery pack's useful life, return the battery pack to the tool manufacturer's branch office or service center or the participating retailer nearest you. For more information, visit the RBRC web site at [www.rbcc.org](http://www.rbcc.org).

Do not incinerate a battery pack or throw it into fire even if it is damaged or is completely worn out. Battery packs can explode in a fire.



Portable, hand-held drills and hammers are undoubtedly