

Toolbox Safety Series
Safe Use of Power Nailers and Staplers



SESSION FIVE
TOOL USE AND CARE



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SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Tool users must

- choose the correct tool to perform the task
- read and understand the owner's manual
- work in a safe manner
- maintain tools according to the manufacturer's requirements.

Employers must ensure

- the employee uses the correct tool for the intended work task
- the tool is in good working condition
- the employee has read and understands the manufacturer's instructions and has been properly trained on the tool's use
- the employee uses the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Coworkers must

- alert others in their surroundings of potential hazards associated with tool use
- use appropriate PPE
- ensure that proper training for tool use has been conducted.

This Toolbox series provides both owners and users of nailers and staplers with some basic information on the safe use of their tools.

ANSI standard SNT-101, ISO standard 11148 Part 13, OSHA standards, manufacturer's instructions and recommendations, safety and construction practices, and recommendations were used to develop this Toolbox Safety Series.

TOPICS FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS

Session 1: Choose the Correct Tool for the Job

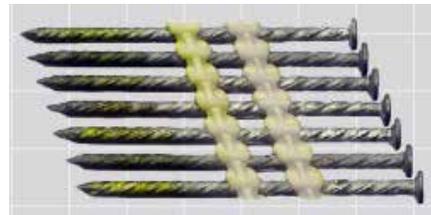
Session 2: Read and Understand All Safety, Use, and Maintenance Instructions

Session 3: Warning Labels and Symbols

Session 4: Tool Power Sources

TOOL USE AND CARE

- Check the tool before using.
 - Make sure fasteners on tool are tight.
 - Make sure a pneumatic or gas tool holds pressure.
 - » Listen for air leaks.
 - » While connected to a compressor that has an output gage, pressure holds steady
 - » If the tool will not operate or operates improperly, it may not be holding pressure.
 - Make sure that electric tools do not have exposed or damaged wiring and are properly grounded.
 - Make sure battery-operated tools do not have battery damage.
 - Verify operation of tool before using.
 - » Ensure tool does not operate when only engaging the trigger.
 - » Ensure tool does not operate when only engaging workpiece contact.
 - Check for worn or damaged components and replace before use.
 - Verify that air exhausts from the tool by disconnecting pressurized air hose.
- Do not throw or drop tool.
- Do not use tool as a hammer.
- Do not engage in horseplay.
- Do not use tool to hold or move a workpiece into place.
- Unauthorized tool modifications should NEVER be performed:
 - NEVER disable a safety feature.
 - NEVER tie back a trigger.
 - NEVER tie back a workpiece contact.
- Clean and lubricate the tool per the manufacturer's instructions.
- Perform maintenance on the tool per the manufacturer's instructions.
- In cold environments, tools often must be warmed up before use. Follow the manufacturer's warm-up instructions.
- Make sure the correct fastener for the tool has been selected.
 - Nails need to meet the tool manufacturer's specifications in terms of
 - » type
 - » length
 - » diameter
 - » head configuration (round, clipped, offset round)
 - » collation material (paper, plastic, wire)
 - » angle of collation (0° , 15° , 22° , 34° , etc.).
 - Match the nail style with the tool (nailers).
 - » Framing
 - » Roofing
 - » Brads
 - Collation style for nails
 - » Based on the angle of feed from the strip or coil magazine
 - » Example: A 30° – 34° paper strip collation will not fit a 20° – 22° magazine or a 28° wire weld magazine.



20°–22° plastic collation



30°–34° paper collation



15° wire coil collation

- Match the staple size for the tool (staplers).
 - » Gage of staple
 - » Staple leg length
 - » Staple crown width
 - » Example: An 18-gage $\frac{1}{2}$ " crown $\frac{3}{4}$ " long staple will not fit into a stapler designed for a 15-gage 1" crown $2\frac{1}{2}$ " long staple.
- Follow manufacturer's procedures for clearing any tool jams that may occur.

QUIZ

This quiz may have multiple correct answers. Its purpose is to be the first step in a discussion with your supervisor/foreman and fellow workers in regard to power-fastening tool safety. Please discuss these questions as a group with your co-workers and supervisor/foreman.

- 1. Name at least one item to check on a tool before operating it.**
- 2. What would you expect would be a primary recommendation in an owner's manual for clearing a tool jam?**
- 3. What is an indication that a pneumatic or gas tool is not holding pressure?**
- 4. You have a damaged tool. What should you do?**

ANSWER KEY

This quiz may have multiple correct answers. Its purpose is to be the first step in a discussion with your supervisor/foreman and fellow workers in regard to power-fastening tool safety. Please discuss these questions as a group with your co-workers and supervisor/foreman.

1. Name at least one item to check on a tool before operating it.

Possible Answers: Trigger system operation, tool damage, lubrication, tool safety components.

2. What would you expect would be a primary recommendation in an owner's manual for clearing a tool jam?

Answer: Disconnect power source before attempting to clear.

3. What is an indication that a pneumatic or gas tool is not holding pressure?

Possible Answers: Sound of leaking air, inability to drive fastener properly.

4. You have a damaged tool. What should you do?

Answer: Do not use it, and have it repaired.

THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS MAKE UP THE TOOL SAFETY ALLIANCE



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 KOKI HOLDINGS AMERICA LTD. Metabo HPT Brand	 PEACE INDUSTRIES SPOTNAILS Brand	 TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NA Milwaukee Tool Brand Rigid Brand	 STANLEY BLACK & DECKER Bostitch Brand DeWalt Brand Porter-Cable Brand Craftsman Brand	 BECK AMERICA FASCO Brand Empire Brand
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