

**Toolbox Safety Series**  
**Safe Use of Power Nailers and Staplers**



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**SESSION SEVEN**  
**BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**

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# SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

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## 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.***

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## TOPICS FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS

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**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**

**Session 5: Tool Use and Care**

**Session 6: Choosing the Correct Trigger for the Job**

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# POWER FASTENING TOOLS OFFERED BY ISANTA MEMBERS CONSIST OF NAILERS, STAPLERS, AND SPECIALTY TOOLS.

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## Always assume that the tool contains fasteners.

- The tool can drive even a single fastener in the magazine or fastener discharge area.
- The last one or two fasteners may not be visible while in the magazine.
- Never point the tool at yourself or others.



## Do not use a tool unless

- the manufacturer's instruction manual has been read and understood
- training has been completed on proper use of the tool
- the user shows no signs of fatigue
- the user is free from drug and alcohol influence
- all children and others are removed from the immediate area
- those in the area are wearing proper PPE such as eye and hearing protection
- all flammable materials and gases have been relocated.

## Manage tool recoil.

When driving a fastener, the tool may recoil off of the work surface.

- Maintain control of tool.
- Allow recoil to move tool away from work surface.
- Resisting a recoil may force tool back to the work surface resulting in an unintentional actuation of tool.
- Keep your face away from tool.
- Make sure your hand is a safe distance away from the fastener discharge area.

## Control exhaust air.

- Many tools are equipped with an exhaust diverter.
- To prevent collision debris, dust, and chips from blowing on you and others, adjust position of tool exhaust.
- Keep face away from the tool and exhaust areas.

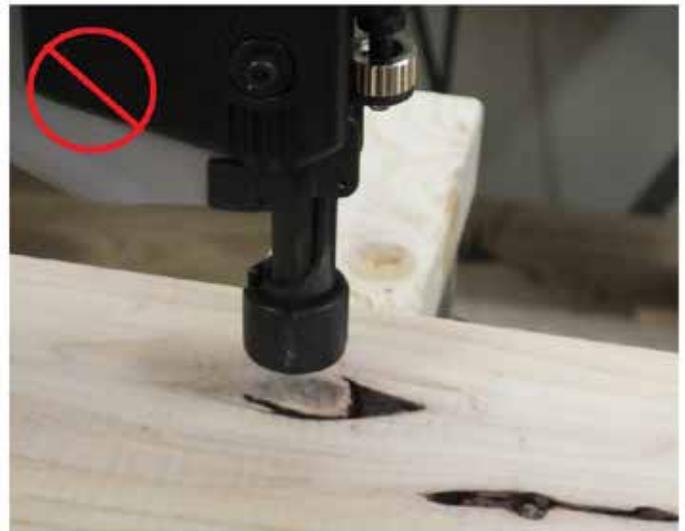
## Keep all body parts away from fastener discharge area.

When driving a fastener, keep all body parts away from the fastener discharge area to minimize the risk of driving a fastener into your body.

## Accidental contact with a fastener can occur from

- improperly aimed tool
- unexpected tool recoil
- ricochet
- having a body part close to the tool's fastener discharge area.

## Take care not to drive a fastener into wood knots or other hard surfaces.

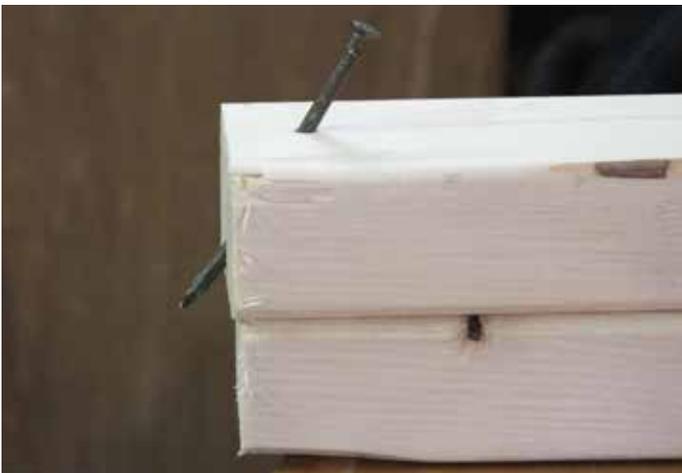


This could cause

- the driven fastener to ricochet, potentially striking the user or others in the area
- the fastener to break or bend and become a projectile
- the tool to slip, resulting in an accidental or uncontrolled discharge
- a fastener to be driven on top of another fastener.

### **Do not drive into edge of material.**

- A fastener may follow the grain of the wood and emerge in an unexpected location.
- A fastener may rupture or damage the edge of the surface resulting in a fastener being driven further than intended.
- Keep body parts away from tool discharge to avoid the risk of driving a fastener into your body.



### **When driving into a workpiece, be aware of what is on the other side.**

A hard surface behind the workpiece can result in an unexpected tool recoil and loss of control.



## Place unattended tools in a safe condition.

- Never leave unattended tool with the power source (air hose, power cord, or battery) attached.
  - Potential trip hazard
  - Potential for accidental discharge by others
- Do not leave a tool where it can fall on others.
  - Always place the tool in its intended resting position as instructed by the user manual.



## Risks when working on a ladder, scaffold, roof, or at heights

- Loss of balance from over-reaching
- Loss of balance from unexpected tool recoil
- Dropping the tool on someone below
- Slipping
- Tripping
- Falling



## About this photo

- Over-reaching
- No PPE
- Use of unstable ladder
- Knotted air hose pulling down on tool

## All of these could result in

- a fall
- accidental discharge of tool.

Where required, use proper OSHA fall protection equipment.

## Injury

### IF ANYONE IS STRUCK WITH A FASTENER

- DO NOT remove the fastener if the fastener is embedded in their body.
- Seek qualified medical help immediately.
- Do not transport yourself to the medical help.
- Call 911 if the injury is life threatening.

# THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS MAKE UP THE TOOL SAFETY ALLIANCE



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 <b>KOKI HOLDINGS AMERICA LTD.</b> Metabo HPT Brand	 <b>PEACE INDUSTRIES</b> SPOTNAILS Brand	 <b>TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NA</b> Milwaukee Tool Brand Rigid Brand	 <b>STANLEY BLACK &amp; DECKER</b> Bostitch Brand DeWalt Brand Porter-Cable Brand Craftsman Brand	 <b>BECK AMERICA</b> FASCO Brand Empire Brand
 <b>JAACO CORPORATION</b> NailPro Brand	 <b>MAX USA CORP.</b> MAX Brand	 <b>MAKITA USA</b> Makita Brand	 <b>ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS</b> Paslode Brand Duo-Fast Brand	 <b>KYOCERA SENCO INDUSTRIAL TOOLS</b> Senco Brand
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