**Radial Arm Saw**
The cutting head must return gently to the starting position when released.

Ensure the guard consists of two parts:
- Upper hood guard that covers arbor.
- Lower hood guard that rides on the stock, adjusting automatically to thickness being cut.

Adjustable stop shall be provided to prevent the forward travel of the blade beyond the position necessary to complete the cut in repetitive operations.

**Band Saw**
All portions of the saw blade shall be guarded, except for working portion of blade between the bottom of guide rolls and the table.

**Circular Saw**
Use guards provided or designed for the saw that you are using.

- Use guard high enough to cover part of blade rising above the stock and wide enough to cover the blade when tilted.
- Blade height should not extend more than \( \frac{1}{8} \) inch above height of stock being cut.
- Use a push stick when ripping narrow or short stock.
- Circular table saws used for ripping shall have anti-kickback fingers or dogs.

**Jointers**
Hand-fed jointers with a horizontal cutting head shall be equipped with automatic guard that covers the entire section of the head on the working side of the fence.

**Georgia Tech EHS**
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What is Machine Guarding and Why is it Necessary?

Moving machine parts have the potential for causing severe workplace injuries, such as crushed fingers or hands, amputations, burns, and blindness, just to name a few. Safeguards are essential for protecting workers from these needless and preventable injuries. Any machine part, function, or process which may cause injury must be safeguarded. When the operation of a machine or accidental contact with it can injure the operator or others in the vicinity, the hazards must be either eliminated or controlled.

Power Transmission Apparatus

Power-transmission apparatus (shafting, fly-wheels, pulleys, belts, chain drives, etc.) less than 7 feet from the floor or working platform must be guarded.

Fan Blades

When the outside edge of the blades of a fan is less than 7 feet above the floor or working level, the blades must be guarded with a guard having openings no larger than ½ inch.

Safeguarding Requirements

Machine safeguards should be installed and maintained to ensure that they:

Prevent Contact

Safeguards must minimize the possibility of the operator or another worker placing their hands into hazardous moving parts.

Remain Secure

Workers should not be able to easily remove or tamper with the safeguard.

Protect from Falling Objects

Safeguards should ensure that no objects could fall into moving parts.

Create No New Hazards

A safeguard defeats its purpose if it creates a hazard of its own.

Create No Interference

A safeguard should not create an unacceptable impediment for the worker.

Allow Safe Maintenance/Lubrication

It should be possible to lubricate the machine without removing the safeguard.

Safety Tips

- Do not remove sawdust or cuttings from the table by hand or with compressed air. Use a stick or brush.
- Wear safety glasses or a face shield.
- Wear hearing protection that is suitable for the level and frequency of the noise you are exposed to in the working area.
- Make sure all guards are in place and properly adjusted.

Abrasive Wheel Machinery

Because of the possibility that the abrasive grinding wheel could explode, the operator must inspect the wheel and check the speed of the spindle.

Work rests shall be adjusted closely to the wheel with a maximum opening of ⅛ inch to prevent the work from being jammed between the wheel and the rest.

- **DO NOT** grind on the side of the wheel.
- **DO NOT** grind a soft material such as aluminum. If soft metal is pressed against the wheel for too long, the wheel could heat excessively and explode.

Before mounting, all wheels shall be closely inspected and sounded (ring tested) by striking the side of the wheel with a non-metallic object like a wooden mallet or a screwdriver and listening for any abnormal sounds. This is done to ensure that the new wheel has not been damaged.

The distance between the wheel periphery and the adjustable tongue must never exceed 1/4 inch.