



September 2016

# September, 2016

## Safety Pages:

Chainsaw Safety ..... P. 2-3

Welding Safety ..... P. 4-5

Radial Arm Saw ..... P. 6-7

Jackhammer Safety..... P. 8-9

## Safety Article:

Ladder Safety ..... P. 10



The OHBA/SAIF Safety Pages are an ongoing series of pages, designed to provide a selection of safety topics each month to OHBA members. Please use these pages to add to (or start) either a Safety Committee file or manual for your company. Some of the Safety Pages will be on general topics and others will be for Owner/Supervisors. The Owner/Supervisor Safety Pages will be on topics based more on compliance or suggested management safety practices.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Oregon Home Builders Association Safety Committee's purpose is to provide safety guidelines, information and resources to help our members work more safely and reduce jobsite accidents. Full and active monthly participation in safety meetings using the OHBA Safety Committee's agendas, topics and checklists will only meet safety committee requirements. It remains your responsibility to comply with all aspects of safety rules and regulations.

[David Davidson, Oregon Home Builders Association, Safety Consultant](#)

375 Taylor St NE, Salem, OR 97301    [541.971.6669](tel:541.971.6669) cell [503.362.5120](tel:503.362.5120) fax    [www.oregonhba.com](http://www.oregonhba.com)

## Safe Use of Chainsaws in Construction

# OHBA Safety Pages

- Chainsaws for construction must be equipped with a chain brake and with anti-kickback chain.
- Whether a chainsaw is electric- or gasoline powered, operators must follow the manufacturer's recommended safe operating procedures.
- Permit only trained and experienced workers to operate a chainsaw.
- Never walk around with a saw in the operating mode. Switch off the power source.
- Do not attempt to cut anything other than wood with a chainsaw.
- When operating a chainsaw, safety glasses and hearing protection must be worn at all times.
- Face shield and hard hat may also be required, depending on the hazards.
- Trousers or chaps with ballistic nylon pads sewn in provide protection to the legs.
- Hold the saw securely with both hands, with fingers and thumbs around the handles. This helps prevent the hands from being dislodged and provides control in the event of a kickback.
- Do not operate the saw when you are tired.
- Know where the bar tip is at all times.
- Don't allow the cut to bind (close) on the saw chain.
- Make sure the chain brake is functioning.

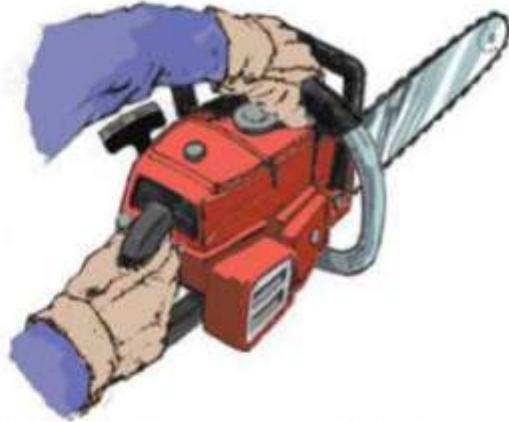


Diagram showing proper grip of a chainsaw



The result of a kick-back and chain break



The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

**SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE**

**Topic: Chainsaw Safety**

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in crew: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

## Welder Safety – Dress for Success and Safety

## OHBA Safety Pages

**Do not wear any clothing that has been contaminated with oil, grease, gasoline or other flammable or hazardous materials!**

- Wear a welding helmet or face shield with correct shade of filter for type of welding.
- Wear safety glasses with side shields under your welding helmet.
- Wear dry, hole-free and approved leather welding gloves.
- Wear head and ear protection to protect your head and ears from hot sparks and slag.
- Wear a flame-retardant shirt or jacket with cuffless pants and high top work boots.
- Wear approved respirator when needed due to type of welding being done – hazardous welding fumes; i.e. Hexavalent Chromium.



regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws.

**SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE**

Topic: Welder Safety

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in crew: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

---

---

---

---

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

---

---

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

## Safe Use of Radial Arm Saws

# OHBA Safety Pages

- ✓ Permit only trained and experienced workers to operate a saw.
- ✓ Wear proper eye and hearing protection, and when required, respiratory protection.
- ✓ A radial arm saw cutting table must be of sufficient width so that no part of the saw blade overhangs the forward edge of the table. A stop may also be used to limit forward travel of the saw to prevent overhang.
- ✓ Saws must not be operated at speeds in excess of the manufacturer's recommendation.
- ✓ Only use accessories designed for the saw and recommended by the manufacturer.
- ✓ Make sure the blade guard is in place and properly adjusted.
- ✓ Stand on the handle side of the saw when cross cutting.
- ✓ Return the saw blade to behind the fence after each cut.
- ✓ Make sure the overall length of the saw table (both infeed and outfeed) is twice the length of the lumber being cut.
- ✓ Make sure during ripping that material is fed counter to the saw blade rotation.
- ✓ The motor head must be locked into position at the correct height and desired angle.
- ✓ Clamp stock to the table when making miter, bevel, or compound miter cuts. This overcomes the tendency of the stock to slide along the fence.
- ✓ Turn off the saw and unplug the electrical cord when making changes.
- ✓ When it is necessary to measure stock on the cutting table, the saw must be turned off until measuring is complete.
- ✓ Do not use radial arm saws for ripping unless spreader and anti-kickback devices are used.
- ✓ During operation, do not remove your hand from the operating handle unless the cutting head is behind the fence.
- ✓ Do not remove the stock from the cutting table until the saw blade has been returned to its position behind the fence.
- ✓ Do not cut "free-hand". The material to be cut must lie solidly on the cutting table against the back guide.
- ✓ Do not use any circular saw blade having a crack exceeding 1/10 of the saw diameter or any circular saw blade with cracks adjacent to the collar line.



regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws,

**SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE**

**Topic:** Safe Use of Radial Arm Saws

**Project:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Shift:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number in crew:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

---

---

---

---

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

---

---

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

# Jack & Demo Hammer Safety

## OHBA Safety Pages

### Pneumatic / Electrical Jackhammers

#### When using a jackhammer:

- Wear proper PPE: eye protection, steel-toed boots, hearing protection; and safety gloves.
- Rotate workers, whenever possible, when jackhammering for extended periods of time.
- Position the jackhammer as near as possible to the work location. Place the compressor as far as possible from the work area to reduce the level of noise.
- Inspect the jackhammer and associated equipment regularly for defect or damage. Check if all components are complete, securely in place (or tightened) and in good condition. Make sure to do this, too, before every shift or start of operations.
  - Check air hoses for breaks, cracks, and worn or damaged couplings.
  - Ensure that the rating of the hose is sufficient for the job intended.
  - Inspect the electrical cord for frays, wear and other signs of damage.
- Secure hose ends to prevent whipping if an accidental cut or break occurs
- Workers must sling the electrical cord on their shoulder to prevent its accidental swerving which can cause electrocution.
- Use the proper weight of the jackhammer for the job. Use a lighter jackhammer for the job as much as possible.
- Use the proper point for the material to be broken. Remember to use rock point for rock, spade point for asphalt, and chisel point for concrete. Never use a broken or cracked point.
- Lift the jackhammer properly by using the legs. This helps you avoid back strain or injury.
- Position the bit where you wish to start the cut, then widen your stance to an athletic position prior to pulling the trigger.
- Operate the tool at a slight angle with it leaning back towards you. This way, you prevent the point from getting stuck in the material and the tool from getting out of control.
- Check for dust when operating jackhammer – If necessary, use water suppression and/or respiratory equipment to limit exposure levels.
- Do not jackhammer down beyond the depth of the cutting bit.
- Release air trigger whenever lifting up on the jackhammer. If jackhammer trigger is operated when jackhammer is not being held down with pressure, it could jump around uncontrolled and injure the worker.
- When moving the jackhammer from place to place during operation, place your hand between the handle and the operating lever.
- Shut off the air supply and relieve pressure from the supply hose before changing tool points. Do the same when leaving the jackhammer unattended.
- Immediately remove defective or malfunctioning jackhammers and other tools until they are properly repaired.
- Barricade the work area as much as possible to keep spectators and untrained personnel from getting exposed to the hazards of jackhammer operations.
- In the event that the jackhammer bit “gets stuck”:
  - Attempt to free the bit by moving the jackhammer back and forth from side to side.
  - If bit is still stuck, put a second bit into the jackhammer and work at stuck bit from a different angle.



The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.



**SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE**

Topic: Jackhammer Safety

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in crew: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

---

---

---

---

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

---

---

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

# What you should know about ladder accidents

In 2015, Oregon OSHA compliance officers investigated 13 cases in which a worker needed to be hospitalized at least one night for a ladder-related accident. From January through July this year, there were four cases in which workers shared a similar fate.

Compliance officers issued 25 citations to employers in 14 of the 17 cases. In the remaining three cases, no citations were issued because the employers had provided ladder training, the ladders were in good condition, and the injured employees were using the ladders properly when the accidents happened. These three cases underscore the fact that ladders have inherent risks even when they are used properly. When ladders are used improperly, the risk increases.



The tables below summarize why the employers were cited.

### Improper ladder use

Many ladder accidents could be avoided if workers chose the right ladder for the job, inspected the ladder before they used it, set it up properly, and did not overload it.

Non-self-supporting ladders were not used at an angle such that the horizontal distance from the top support to the foot of the ladder was approximately one-quarter of the working length of the ladder. 1926.1053(b)(5)(i).....	<b>2 citations</b>
Ladders were used on surfaces which were not stable and level. 1926.1053(b)(6) .....	<b>2 citations</b>
Ladders were not secured when used on surfaces that allowed slipping or movement. 437-002-0026(7)(h) .....	<b>1 citation</b>
The tops of a non-self-supporting ladder were not placed with the two rails supported equally. 1926.1053(b)(10) .....	<b>1 citation</b>
Ladders were loaded beyond their manufacturer's rated capacity. 1926.1053(b)(3) .....	<b>1 citation</b>
Ladders were not inspected and removed from service when they were defective. 437-002-0026(5)(e) .....	<b>1 citation</b>
Ladders were used for purposes not intended by the manufacturer or as a brace, skid, guy or anchor point. 437-002-0026(7)(q) .....	<b>1 citation</b>

**9 citations**

### Lack of training or supervision

Some employers assume that their employees know how to use ladders but that is often not the case. Although "improper use" is a reason for many ladder accidents, an underlying cause is that the employees have not been trained to use them properly.

The employer did not see that workers were properly instructed and supervised in the safe operation of any machinery, tools, equipment, process, or practice which they were authorized to use or apply. 437-001-0760(1)(a) .....	<b>3 citations</b>
The employer did not provide a training program for each employee using ladders. 1926.1060(a) .....	<b>1 citation</b>

**4 citations**

### Failure to report in-patient hospitalization

Failure to report an in-patient hospitalization is a symptom of a problem with an employer's safety program. Employers must report an in-patient hospitalization to Oregon OSHA within 24 hours after an accident. In four of these work-related ladder accidents, employers did not report the in-patient hospitalizations until days after the accidents happened – even though the employers knew that the employees were hospitalized.

The employer did not report in-patient hospitalizations. 437-001-0704(4) .....	<b>4 citations</b>
---	--------------------

**4 citations**

### No safety committees, safety meetings, or documentation

No safety committee – or safety meetings – is another symptom of a deficient safety program. Most Oregon employers must have safety committees or hold regular safety meetings. Employers must keep meeting minutes if their employees do construction, utility,

or manufacturing work. All other employers must keep minutes at meetings only when employees are absent.  
The employer did not establish and administer an effective safety committee or hold effective safety meetings. 437-001-0765(1)

..... **2 citations**

An employer in construction, utility work, or manufacturing did not document, make available, and keep for three years a written record of each safety meeting. 437-001-0765(13)

..... **2 citations**

**4 citations**

**No provisions for medical services or first aid**

When a worker needs medical attention for a serious injury (or any other medical condition), call 911. Do not rely on self-assessments or medical assessments from well-intentioned co-workers. This year, a number of workplace medical emergencies have left workers waiting while co-workers discussed whether a 911 call was necessary. In one case, co-workers loaded an injured worker – who was sitting in a chair, unable to move – into a truck and drove him to an urgent care center only to discover that the facility was not equipped to deal with his injuries.

There is nothing wrong with an emergency plan that relies on a 911 call for serious medical events. In fact, it is a good idea. Provisions were not made prior to commencement of the project for prompt medical attention in case of serious injury. 1926.50(b)

..... **1 citations**

Emergency medical services for injured or sick employees were not available in time to give appropriate treatment for the circumstances. 437-004-1305(3)

..... **1 citation**

**2 citations**

**Employer did not take all reasonable means to require employees to work and act in a safe manner**

In two cases, workers fell from fixed ladders. The circumstances were unusual. In the first case, the worker was trying to open a defective roof hatch from a fixed ladder. The employer knew the hatch was defective but did not put the ladder out of service until the hatch had been fixed. In the second case, the worker was working on equipment from a fixed ladder. The work required the worker to lean away from the ladder; the fall could have been prevented if the worker used a personal fall restraint system.

Employer failed to remove an unsafe fixed ladder from service 437-001-0760(1)(b)(A)

..... **1 citations**

Employer failed to require employee to wear personal fall protection. 437-001-0760(1)(b)(C)

..... **1 citation**

**2 citations**