

RCI Safety Series Passport — Mitre Saws

Student Name: _____

Certification Date: _____, 20____

What should you do before using a mitre saw?

Mitre saws can be dangerous if not used properly.

- ✓ Operate only with Mr. Ferguson's permission and after you have received proper instruction.
- ✓ Make sure you know and understand the instructions before attempting to use any tool or machine.
- ✓ Learn the applications and limitations before use.
- ✓ Refer to Woodworking Machines - General Safety Tips for more information.

What safety precautions should you follow when using a mitre saw?

- ✓ Wear safety glasses or a face shield. If work is dusty, use a respirator or dust mask.
- ✓ Wear appropriate hearing protection.
- ✓ Attach the saw firmly on a workbench or other rigid frame and operate saw at waist height. The saw can also be taken to remote locations by mounting it on a piece of plywood 13 mm (1/2 in.) or thicker. This must be clamped to a waist high work surface on the job site with large "C" clamps.
- ✓ Keep one hand on the trigger switch and handle and use the other hand to hold the stock against the fence.
- ✓ Keep hands out of the path of the blade.
- ✓ Keep guards in place and in working order.
- ✓ Remove adjusting keys and wrenches.
- ✓ Use a crosscut or combination blade.
- ✓ Ensure that the blade rotates in the correct direction.
- ✓ Ensure that the blade and arbor collars are secure and clean. Recessed sides of collars should be against blade.
- ✓ Keep blade tight, clean, sharp and properly set so that it cuts freely and easily.
- ✓ Allow motor to reach full speed before cutting.
- ✓ Follow instructions for changing accessories.
- ✓ Keep the work area clean. Cluttered areas and benches invite accidents.
- ✓ Keep the work area well lit.
- ✓ Reduce the risk of unintentional startup. Make sure saw switch is in OFF position before plugging in.
- ✓ Unplug tools before servicing and when not in use.
- ✓ Check for damage. Repair or replace damaged parts.
- ✓ Keep motor air slots clean and free of chips.
- ✓ Use only the accessories designed for the specific saw and job.



What should you avoid when using a mitre saw?

- ✓ Do not operate the saw on ground.
- ✓ Do not cut pieces smaller than 20 cm (8 in.) in length.
- ✓ Do not cut "free hand." The stock should lie solidly on the table against the fence.
- ✓ Do not reach around or behind the saw blade.
- ✓ Do not take your hand away from the trigger switch and handle until the blade is fully covered by the lower blade guard.
- ✓ Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- ✓ Do not force the saw. The saw cuts better and more safely at the rate for which it was designed.
- ✓ Do not leave the saw until it has stopped completely. Turn the power off and unplug the saw.
- ✓ Do not use electric tools in damp or wet locations.
- ✓ Do not operate electric tools near flammable liquids or in gaseous or explosive atmospheres. Sparks may ignite fumes.

Ensure that you follow all shop safety rules

➡ **Safety First** ⬅