

RCI Safety Series Passport — Router

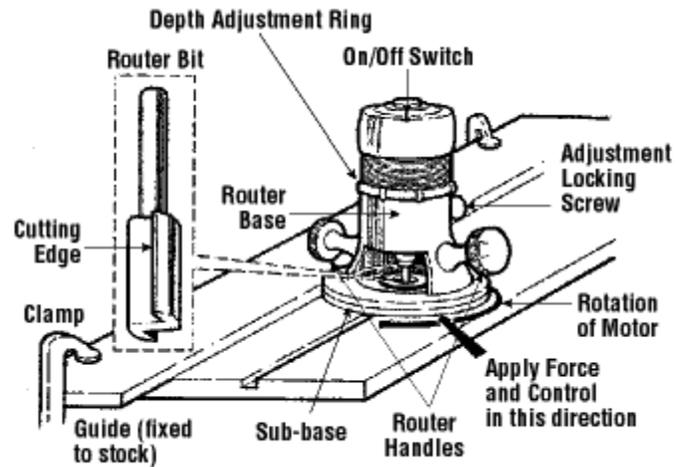
Student Name: _____

Certification Date: _____, 20____

What should you do before using a router?

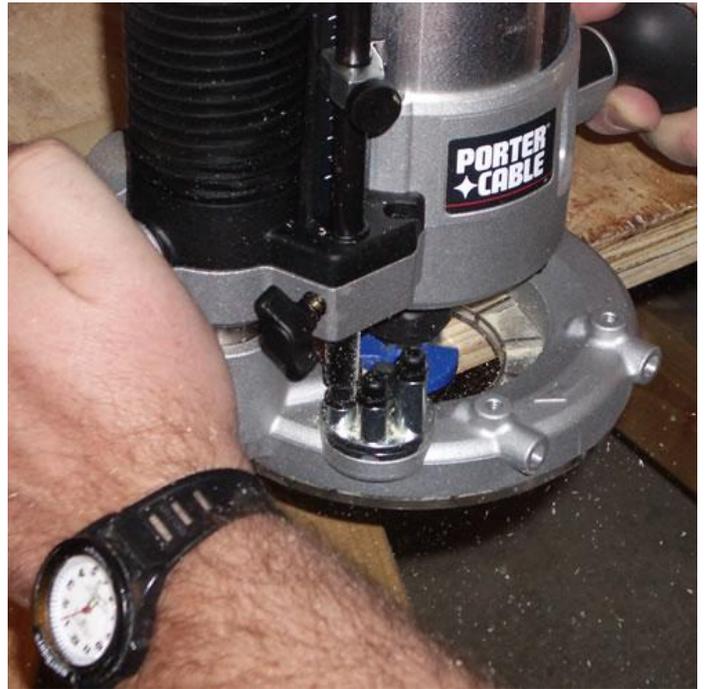
Routers can be dangerous if not used properly.

- ✓ Operate only with Mr. Ferguson's permission and after you have received proper instruction.
- ✓ Wear eye protection or a face shield and appropriate hearing protection.
- ✓ Disconnect the power supply before making any adjustments or changing bits. Inspect bits carefully before installing.
- ✓ Ensure that the bit is securely mounted in the chuck and the base is tight.
- ✓ Put the base of the router on the work, template or guide. Make sure that the bit can rotate freely before switching on the motor.
- ✓ Secure stock. Never rely on yourself or a second person to support or hold the material. Sudden torque or kickback from the router can cause damage and injury.
- ✓ Before using a router, check stock thoroughly for staples, nails, screws or other foreign objects. Keep all cords clear of cutting area.



What should you do to work with a router safely?

- ✓ Hold both hands on router handles always, until a motor has stopped. Do not set the router down until exposed router bit has stopped turning.
- ✓ Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance.
- ✓ When inside routing, start the motor with the bit above the stock. When the router reaches full power, lower bit to required depth.
- ✓ When routing outside edges, guide the router counter clockwise around the work.
- ✓ When routing bevels, moldings and other edge work, make sure the router bit is in contact with the stock to the left of a starting point and is pointed in the correct cutting direction.
- ✓ Feed the router bit into the material at a firm, controlled speed.
- ✓ With softwood, you can sometimes move the router as fast as it can go.
- ✓ With hardwood, knotty and twisted wood, or with larger bits, cutting may be very slow.
- ✓ The sound of the motor can indicate safe cutting speeds. When the router is fed into the material too slowly, the motor makes a high-pitched whine. When the router is pushed too hard, the motor makes a low growling noise.
- ✓ When the type of wood or size of the bit requires going slow, make two or more passes to prevent the router from burning out or kicking back.
- ✓ To decide the depth of cut and how many passes to make, test the router on scrap lumber similar to the work.
- ✓ If a router is connected to a router table, refer to Woodworking Machines - Shapers for more guidance.



Ensure that you follow all shop safety rules

➡ **Safety First** ⬅