



## Preventing hand and finger injuries



### Hand Hazard Review

- Skin absorption of harmful substances (solvents)
- Severe cuts or lacerations (saw, hand tools like flogging spanners and chisels slipping, wires, straps, contact with moving machinery)
- Severe abrasions (grinders, rotating shafts)
- Pinches and crushes (Hands held in door hinges, frames and injury from sharp edges, material handling)
- Punctures (drill press, nail gun, hand tools)
- Chemical burns (acid, caustics, cleaning chemicals)
- Thermal burns (welding, cutting, steam burns, contact with hot surface)
- Cold and frost bite (cold climate, refrigerated rooms)
- Carrying (Knocking hands against fixed objects whilst carrying "light" equipment, Manhandling heavy equipment)
- Others (vibration due to prolonged use of pneumatic tools)

### Barriers:

Planning

Risk Assessment

Experience

Procedures

Awareness through Toolbox Talks

Ready to intervene in unsafe situations

Ensuring Machinery guards are in place

Dedication to task

Are you  
**PREPARED**  
before you  
start work?



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## When Using Machinery



Unauthorised persons  
not to use this  
machine

**Intervene and Stop unauthorised persons from operating machinery.**



**Check that the guards are in place and work effectively.**



Emergency stop for machinery

**Know where the emergency stop is for the machinery and test  
If it operates correctly before starting work.**



**Do not go sticking your fingers where they don't belong.  
Do not use fingers to stop moving machinery**



**Avoid unsafe acts**



**PPE, the last line of defence**



## Preventing hand and finger injuries

### Is it safe to touch?



Toxic material



High temperature



Glass hazard,  
broken glass



Hot surface



Danger: electricity



Machinery starts  
automatically



**Danger**  
Very hot water



Corrosive material

## Things to Do

- Know the hand hazards in your workplace
- Use the door handle when closing a door.
- Wonder if you could trap your hand in that.
- Report all injuries, even minor ones.
- Use the appropriate gloves
- Keep hands out of a machine's danger zone

## Things NOT to Do

- Never use fingers to check hole alignment on flanges.
- When moving heavy objects with a crane or chain block never place fingers underneath the load or where they can be trapped between the load and another surface.
- Do not remove bolts by pushing your finger through the bolt hole. Use a bar instead.
- Do not wear gloves around machinery with moving parts.



## Your Family Needs You