

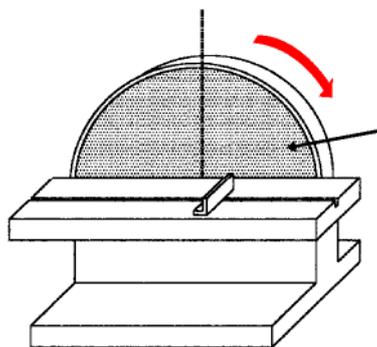
USING POWER TOOLS

It is very important that power tools are used safely. When used correctly, they can produce accurate work in a very short time. If they are used incorrectly they can ruin work in a very short time and possibly injure the user.

Rule 1.

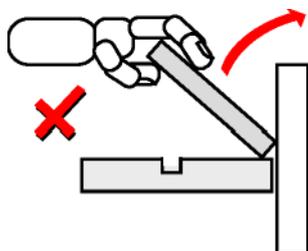
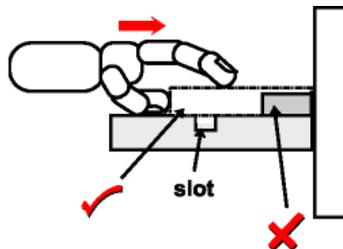
Never use a power tool until you have received instruction on how to use it safely! What you will read on this page is **not** a substitute for live instruction, given by your teacher. This page is meant to help you remember the rules, not learn them.

Disc Sander A very useful machine for sanding down the end grain of wood and the edges of sheet plastic.



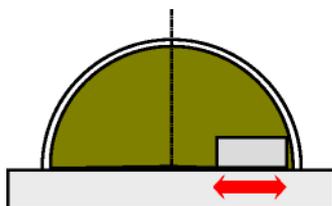
Only use the right hand quarter of the disc, where it is moving down towards the table. This is to stop your work from being thrown off the machine.

Never sand small pieces of wood. If your finger touches the revolving disc you will receive a very painful graze. A good rule is that when the wood is touching the disc it should be covering the slot in the table. If it doesn't, it is too short.



Do not be tempted to use the disc for sanding corners. The wood is likely to be forced in the direction of the arrow and could be thrown off the machine.

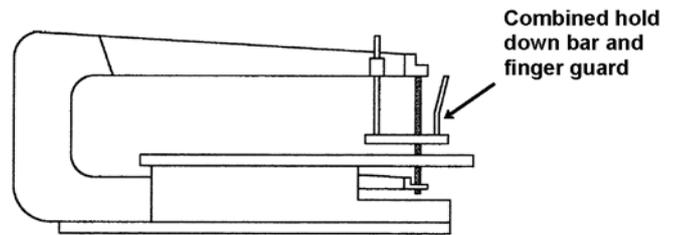
To spread the wear of the disc and to help avoid burning the wood, keep moving the wood from side to side in the right hand quarter of the disc. This action stops the disc from clogging.



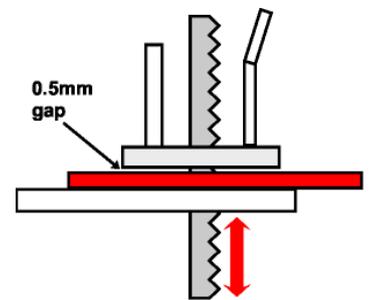
Scroll Saw

This machine is also known as a **Fretsaw**. It is used for cutting thin sheets of wood, manufactured board and plastic. It is best used for curved cuts rather than straight cuts.

The saw is reasonably safe because the blade moves up and down through a short distance. If a finger touches the blade lightly, the flesh tends to move up and down with the blade and is not cut by it. However, a finger jammed against the blade will be cut by it.



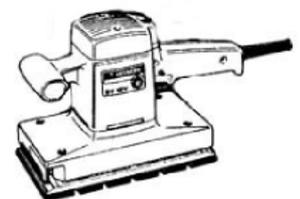
Position the hold down bar no more than 0.5mm above the material being cut. This will stop the material from jumping up and down with the movement of the blade.



Portable Tools

Mains operated power tools can be dangerous if the power lead is allowed to trail over the workshop floor. Power leads are often tripped over by other workshop users. It is important that you use the tools as close to the electric socket as possible.

Orbital sander



Note: Power tools do not stop instantly, always let them run down and stop before putting them aside.

1. What is the most important rule concerning the use of power tools?
 2. Why is it dangerous to try and sand small items on a disc sander?
 3. How can you tell if a piece of wood to be sanded is too small for safe use of the machine?
 4. Why should the wood being sanded be moved from side to side?
 5. Why is it unlikely that you would cut your finger when using a scroll saw?
 6. When using a scroll saw, how can you stop the material being cut moving up and down with the blade?
 7. What is the main precaution you need to take when using a mains operated, portable drill?
- A.** Create a safety poster to help promote the safe use of a sanding disc or scroll saw.