

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

HOLE SAWS

**This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

1. Know your tool. Learn the operation, application and limitations as well as the specific and potential hazards of the tool before using it.
2. Wear adequate PPE, and keep observers at a safe distance from the work area. Check MSDS for the material to be cut (if applicable) before starting work for material-specific hazards that could require other PPE.
3. The work area must be inspected thoroughly (electrical circuits behind surface, garbage, plumbing, trip hazards, etc.).
4. Make sure you have stable support – a hole saw **can** “grab, “kick” or “buck” when it penetrates the material at any angle other than 90 degrees. This may rotate the drill and cause injury.

DO:

- Wear safety eyewear.
- Use light pressure.
- Cut straight.
- Unplug when removing or installing hole saw.
- Use side handles or drills for support.
- Stay alert and pay attention – accidents can happen in a split second.
- Double check assembly – every nut, bolt and screw must be tight.

DON'T:

- Use a cup that is cracked or bent.
- Use near electrical circuits.
- Use on a ladder, table or where proper balance cannot be maintained.
- Cut curved or uneven surfaces.
- Use a drill without an on/off switch.