

SAFE WORK PRACTICES RECIPROCATING SAW (SAWZALL)

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

General: The reciprocating saw or sawzall can be used in the same place that you would use a hacksaw, handsaw or drywall saw. This enables you to do the work faster and with less strain and exertion.

1. Know your equipment. Learn the operation, application and limitations as well as the specific and potential hazards of the equipment before operating it. Refer to the operating manual if necessary. Have someone with experience assist you before using the tool on your own.
2. Wear adequate PPE, and keep observers at a safe distance from the work area. Minimum PPE for this equipment is safety glasses. Check the MSDS before starting work for material-specific hazards that could require other PPE.
3. Ensure that there is adequate room to work with the sawzall. Don't stick yourself in a corner.
4. Watch where the piece that you are cutting off will fall, and make sure that you or someone else has control over it.
5. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for maintenance specifications.
6. If you are working off a ladder or scaffold, make sure that the sawzall is secured in case you drop it. Reaching out to grab a falling tool can lead to losing your balance and falling off your ladder or scaffold.
7. Make sure the sawzall is returned to its case and locked up when you are finished with it.