Hand tools

About 5 minutes · Read it out, then ask the questions at the end.

> **Why it matters.** Hand tools cause many cuts, crush injuries and eye injuries on site, usually because the tool is damaged, the wrong one for the job or used the wrong way.

The hazards

- Cuts from knives, saws and blades
- Hammer heads and chisels flying off or splintering
- Wrong tool for the job, causing slips and strains
- Eye injuries from flying fragments

Stay safe

- Use the right tool for the job
- Check tools before use: loose heads, cracked handles and mushroomed chisels must be replaced
- Use safety knives with retractable or guarded blades
- Cut away from your body and keep your other hand clear
- Wear eye protection and gloves suited to the job
- Carry and store tools safely, with blades covered
- Take damaged tools out of use and report them

Ask the team

1. Which hand tool causes the most injuries on our jobs?
2. What makes a chisel or hammer unsafe to use?
3. Where do damaged tools go on this site?

The law and guidance

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992.

General guidance to help you give a toolbox talk. It doesn't replace your site's risk assessments, method statements, permits or training. Check it against your own site rules before you give it.

Free toolbox talk from EW Group, 110V site temps specialists. www.ewgroup.co.uk · Bristol 0117 982 0005 · London 020 7476 0001

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Hand tools

Site: _____ Date: _____

Given by: _____ Company: _____

By signing, I confirm I attended this toolbox talk and understood it.

Name (print)	Company	Signature	Time

Keep this record with your site's training and briefing records.