Saw Safety

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Saw Statistics

• In 2009 there were 35,624 reported table saw injuries
  • About 10% were amputations
• Estimated that 1:230 table saws will be involved in an accident
  • 1:4000 will be involved in an amputation
• Almost all injuries could be prevented
  • 45% of saw injuries are children
Preparation

- Proper attire required: safety glasses, hearing protection, short sleeve shirt, no jewelry, shoes with no slip soles
- Clear area of any debris
- Make sure saw blade is tightened completely
- Inspect all the saws safety devices
  - Blade guard, splitter, anti-kickback
- Know your cut
  - Avoid any awkward operations while using saw
  - Make sure cuts are supported

Saw Safety

- Stand comfortably, with feet wide for balance
- Never put hand less than 6” from blade during cut
  - Use a pusher or clamp for anything less
- Never reach behind the blade while it is turning
- Wait for blade to stop turning to grab any cuts
- Unplug saw to make any adjustments to the blade
- If a cut feels unsafe, don’t do it
Injury Treatment

• If excessive bleeding occurs or amputation call 911
  • Put severed part directly on ice for transport

• For less serious cuts:
  • Apply direct pressure until bleeding stops
  • Clean area with soap and water
  • Apply antibiotic and sterile bandage
  • Visit urgent care if stitches are needed

Sources

• https://www.webmd.com/first-aid/hand-injuries-treatment
• https://www.woodmagazine.com/woodworking-tips/techniques/safety/tablesaw-safety
• https://www.woodcraft.com/blog_entries/two-dozen-table-saw-safety-tips