

# Men's Sheds of WA – Safe Work Procedure

## ABRASIVE CUT OFF SAW

MEN'S  
SHEDS  
OF WA

**DO NOT use this machine unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation and have been given permission**

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work areas.



Long and loose hair must be contained.



Hearing protection must be worn.



Sturdy footwear must be worn at all times in work areas.



Close fitting/protective clothing must be worn.



Rings and jewellery must not be worn.

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional. Do not operate if guards are missing or faulty.
- ✓ Ensure the saw is properly secured to a worktable by bolts/clamps at approximately hip height.
- ✓ Ensure the saw is operated on an RCD protected circuit.
- ✓ Use abrasive cut off wheels with the correct size arbor hole.
- ✓ Use abrasive cut off wheels with a maximum safe operating speed greater than the "no load RPM" marked on the machine's nameplate.
- ✓ Inspect the cut off wheel for chips and cracks.
- ✓ Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip-hazards are present.
- ✓ Ensure the depth stop is properly adjusted.
- ✓ Keep table and work area clear of all tools and off-cut material.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Ensure all adjustments to machine are secure before making a cut.
- ✓ Use the vice to clamp the work and properly support the over-hanging portion of the workpiece level with the base of the machine.
- ✓ Allow the machine to reach full speed before contacting the workpiece.
- ✓ Ease the abrasive disc against the workpiece when starting to cut.
- ✓ Keep hands away from the blade and cutting area.
- ✓ After finishing the cut, release the switch, hold the saw arm down and wait for the disc to stop before removing work or off-cut piece.
- ✓ Before making any adjustments, disconnect the plug from the power source and bring the machine to a complete standstill.

### CLEANING UP

- ✓ Remove foreign material from in and around ventilation openings and switch levers.
- ✓ Leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND INJURIES

- ⓘ Metal sparks.
- ⓘ Noise.
- ⓘ Sharp metal burrs.
- ⓘ Contact with rotating disc.
- ⓘ Eye injuries.
- ⓘ Burns from hot workpieces.

### DON'T

- ✗ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report suspect equipment.
- ✗ Do not grind on the side of abrasive cut off wheels.
- ✗ Do not cut wood or wood products.
- ✗ Do not hold a workpiece by hand, as it will become very hot while being cut.
- ✗ Do not use a length stop on the free off-cut end of a clamped workpiece.
- ✗ Do not have any part of your body in line with the path of the abrasive disc.
- ✗ Do not force the tool into a cut.
- ✗ Do not attempt to remove cut material while disc is moving.

This SWP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with this equipment and should be used in conjunction with other references. It is designed as a guide to be used to compliment training and as a reminder to users prior to equipment use.

This information is provided by Frontline Safety  
[www.frontline.edu.au](http://www.frontline.edu.au)