

Pneumatic Nail Gun Safety

Tool Tips to prevent injuries on the job

Though they are very useful tools, nail guns are also quite hazardous. They can cause serious injuries to your eyes, hands and fingers if used improperly or without taking necessary safety precautions. The following are common nail gun hazards:

- Splintering or fragmenting of materials, which can create cutting or flying hazards
- Firing completely through the material and striking your hand or other body part behind the nailing surface
- Contact hazards, such as nails striking electrical wires

To prevent these types of incidents, you need to understand what type of tool you are using and then how to use it safely and properly.

Common Tool Types

- ***Sequential tools:*** require the nose (work piece contact) to be depressed before the trigger is pulled.
 - Two-step sequence makes accidental firing less likely
 - Can be used for most nailing tasks
- ***Contact tools:*** tool fires anytime the trigger and nose (work piece contact) are both depressed.
 - Trigger can be held down to allow “bump firing”
 - Used for nailing on flat surfaces
 - If the trigger is depressed, the tool will fire any time the nose is depressed, which can cause unwanted double-firing

Safe Work Practices

- Follow the manufacturer's labels and operating manual.
- Wear safety glasses with side shields.
- Never remove or modify the safety features of the tool.
- Keep your fingers away from the trigger when you are not driving nails.
- Avoid line-of-fire hazards in front of and behind material. Position yourself out of the line of fire and make sure co-workers are not in the way.
- Never point the nail gun at another person.
- Disconnect the gun to perform maintenance and move to another work area to clear jams.

Don't underestimate the risks. Even though the nail gun is not as large as other tools you use regularly, it can cause significant injury. Protect yourself and watch out for others to avoid hazards in the workplace.

JOB SITE:

Date:

Name of Employee <i>(Please Print)</i>	Signature