



INJURY PREVENTION

Quick Review of Safety

Utility Knife Safety

- Use a sharp blade. Dull blades require more pressure and increase the risk of slippage or other potential injuries, including ergonomic strain.
- Use safety knives with rounded tips or self-retracting blades wherever possible.
- Plan the cut before cutting, and keep your eye on the blade throughout the process. Keep your hands or extremities out of the path of the blade.
- Inspect the tool before use to ensure that the blade is in its proper position and undamaged.
- Wear safety glasses to protect against broken blades.
- Extend the blade as short as necessary to make the cut.
- Cut away from your body rather than pulling toward you.
- Do not try to force the blade if it becomes stuck.
- Hand knives to others handle first with the blade retracted.
- Store the knife with the blade fully retracted.
- Use the knife for the intended purpose; it is designed to pry objects.
- Dispose of old blades in a puncture-resistant container.
- Breakaway blade models are not designed for heavy-duty industrial use and should not be used for heavy work.
- Change blades carefully according to manufacturer recommendations with the correct size of blades.
- Use the right knife for the job or for your hand, particularly if using the knife for a long time. Knives that are too short can put uncomfortable pressure points into the palm of the hand, while larger knives can be unwieldy to use.

(Over)



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