***GENERAL POWER EQUIPMENT SAFETY RULES***

1. Before using any of the power equipment, you must have received instructions on its use and have passed a written safety test on the machine with a score of 100% correct.
2. Wear appropriate clothing, no ties, loose sleeves or shirt tails.
3. You must be wide awake and alert. Never operate a machine when you are over tired, under the influence of alcohol or drugs or ill.
4. Think through operations before performing them. Know what you are going to do and what the machine will do.
5. Make all necessary adjustments before turning on the machine.
6. Never remove a safety guard or fence.
7. Use push sticks, bush blocks, feather boards, and other safety devices. ***ALWAYS*** keep your fingers at least 4” away from any blades, knives, or cutting surfaces. (Increase the distance to 6” on the Radial Arm Saw)
8. Allow the machine to reach operating speed before using it.
9. Feed the work carefully and only as fast as the machine will cut easily. Do not force any machine.
10. You are in control of the machine. Only one operator permitted.
11. Do not allow your attention to be distracted while operating a machine.
12. Stay clear of machines being operated by other students. See that other students are out of the way when you are operating a machine.
13. When you have completed an operation on a machine:
14. Shut off the power.
15. Before leaving the machine or making adjustments, wait for it to stop.
16. NEVER leave a machine running and unattended
17. Do not crowd around or wait inside the safety zone to use a machine.
18. Only the operator is allowed in the safety zone when a machine is in use.
19. If a machine is dull, out of adjustment, or in any way not working properly, shut off the power ***IMMEDIATELY*** and inform the instructor.
20. NEVER attempt to stop a machine by running a board into the cutting knives or blades.
21. Remove scrap material from around the blade with a push stick after the machine has been ***TURNED OFF*** and the blade has ***STOPPED.***
22. Keep your hands out from the path of the saw blades, knives, and router bits.
23. Make all set ups and adjustments to machines with the power turned off.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE RADIAL ARM SAW (RAS)***

1. The saw blade should project no more than 1/16” below the stock being cut.
2. Remove stock from the table of the RAS only when the saw has been returned to the rear of the table.
3. ***NEVER*** attempt to reach the saw blade or any moving parts when the RAS is on.
4. After the saw has stopped, use a push stick to remove wood scraps.
5. In this class, ***DO NOT*** use this saw for ripping.
6. When there is a noticeable build-up of saw dust and wood chips on the table of the radial arm saw, turn off the power. After the blade has stopped, remove these obstructions with a push stick or bench brush.
7. To be cut, a board must be in contact with the table and the fence in the red painted area.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE JOINTER***

1. Do not adjust the outfeed table.

1. The maximum cut for jointing an edge is 1/8”.
2. The maximum cut for jointing a face is 1/16”.
3. Do not joint end grain.
4. Stock to be jointed must be at least 12 inches long, 2 inches wide, and ½ inch thick.
5. Feed the work so that the knives will cut with the grain.
6. Keep your hands away from the cutterhead, even though the guard is in position. Maintain at LEAST a 4-inch margin of safety.
7. Use a push block when jointing a flat surface (face).
8. While the jointer is being used, the guard must cover the part of the cutterhead that is not covered by the board.
9. Do not allow your fingers to contact the lead end, trail behind or along the edge of the stock. It is safe and good practice to avoid touching the surfaces of the jointer table at all times.
10. Examine the stock carefully. ***DO NOT***  joint stock that has large checks, cracks, splinters, loose knots, nails, paint, sand, or other foreign material on the surfaces. These particles may fly out, or the stock may kick back and/or the jointer knives may be damaged.
11. Before removing stock from the outfeed table, push the stock far enough onto the outfeed table so that the guard returns to position over the cutterhead.
12. Pass the stock around rather than over the cutterhead when returning the stock to the infeed table for another cut.
13. Before feeding any material into the jointer, make certain that no one is in direct line behind the machine.
14. In this class, use the jointer only to smooth a face and/or to square an edge.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE SURFACER***

1. Stock must be at least 12 inches long.
2. Surface lumber that is free of:
3. loose knots
4. nails and cracks
5. dirt and stones
6. finishes like paint and varnish
7. serious defects
8. ***NEVER*** surface plywood, particle board, or hard board
9. Surface with the grain. NEVER attempt to surface across the grain.
10. Stand to the side of the work being fed.
11. Do not look into the machine when it is running.
12. Handle the stock on the sides, so your fingers do not get pinched between the board and the table.
13. If the machine is not working properly:
14. PLACE THE CLUTCH NEUTRAL (2 SECONDS)
15. PLACE THE CLUTCH IN REVERSE (BOARD SHOULD RETURN)
16. PLACE THE CLUTCH NUETRAL (2 SECONDS)
17. PLACE THE CLUTCH IN FORWARD
18. DOUBLE CHECK FOR A 1/16” CUT
19. PLACE BOARD ON TABLE IN A DIFFERENT LOCATION – MAKE THE CUT.
20. IF BOARD GETS STUCK AGAIN - GET THE INSTRUCTOR.
21. Thin stock under 3/8” should be surfaced by placing it on the top of a carrier board.
22. The dust collector must be on when you are using the surfacer.
23. Never exceed 1/16” depth cut.
24. Before feeding any stock into the machine, check to see that no one is standing behind it.
25. Excess glue must be scraped from all glued-up stock before it is surfaced.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE TABLE SAW***

1. Be sure the blade is sharp and the right one for the job.

2. The saw is equipped with a guard and a splitter. Be sure to use them.

3. To use the table saw, your board must have:

a. one smooth face in contact with the table, and

b. one smooth edge against the fence.

4. When CROSSCUTTING use ONLY the MITER GAUGE.

5. When RIPPING use ONLY the FENCE and SPLITTER. A push stick must also be used when ripping stock under 4 inches in width.

6. The stock to be cut must be against either the miter gauge or the fence. ***NO FREE HAND CUTTING!***

7. Set the blade so that it extends about 1/8 inch above the stock that is to be cut.

8. Stand to one side of the operating blade. NOT BEHIND IT!

9. Do not reach over a running saw blade.

10. Keep your hands at least 4 inches away from the running saw blade, even though the

guard is in position.

11. Stop the saw before making adjustments to it.

12. Do not let small scraps of wood accumulate around the saw blade.

13. To remove small scraps of wood from around the saw blade:

a. Turn off the power.

b. Wait until the blade stops.

c. Push the scraps to the floor with a push stick.

14. You must have the instructor’s permission to make any cuts on large stock that one person could not handle easily or safely.

15. Allow waste stock to drop to the side or off the end of the table. Never reach over the blade.

16. ***NEVER*** cut cylindrical material on the table saw without the proper jig.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE MITER SAW***

1. Eye protection is a must when operating a miter saw.

2. Don't wear gloves, loose clothing, jewelry, or any dangling objects when operating a miter saw.

3. All guards must be in place and operating. If a guard seems slow to return to its normal position or hangs up, adjust it or repair it immediately.

4. Unplug or lock out power to the miter saw when making repairs or adjusting blades and guards.

5. Hands and fingers must be kept clear of the blade by at least 4 inches.

6. Clean the lower guard frequently to help with visibility and movement.

7. Be sure the blade is not in contact with the stock when powering up to make a cut.

8. Regularly check and tighten the blade and the blade-attachment mechanism.

9. Ensure that the blade and its related washers and fasteners are correctly positioned and secured on the saw's arbor.

10. To avoid losing control or placing hands in the blade path, hold or clamp all material securely against the fence when cutting.

11. Do not perform operations freehand.

12. Never cut small pieces.

13. Long material should be supported at the same height as the saw table.

14. To avoid contact with a coasting blade, do not reach into the cutting area until the blade comes to a full stop.

15. After completing a cut, release the trigger switch and allow the blade to come to a complete stop, then raise the blade from the workpiece. If the moving blade stays in the cutting area after cutting is complete, injury can result from accidental contact.

16. When using a sliding miter saw, start cutting with the blade closest to you, plunge downward, and then push the blade forward on its sliders as you cut.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE BAND SAW***

1. The wheel guard doors must be closed before the machine is turned on.

2. Adjust the upper guide so it is ¼” above the stock.

3. The Stock must be held flat on the table.

4. Plan saw cuts to avoid backing out of curves.

5. Make turns carefully and do not cut radii so small that the blade twists.

6. Stop the machine before backing out of a long cut.

7. Cylindrical material should not be cut unless it is mounted securely in a jig or wood clamp.

8. If you hear clicking noise, turn the machine off at once. A clicking noise indicates a crack in the blade.

9. If the blade brakes, shut off the power and move to the ***LEFT*** of the machine until both wheels stops.

10. The operator should stand to the left of the saw cut.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE JIG SAW***

1. Before turning the machine on, turn it over by hand to make sure all adjustments are properly set.

2. Adjust the “hold down foot” it to insure contact with the material being cut.

3. Near the end of each cut, ease up on the pressure.

4. Apply pressure on your material against the table to eliminate the possibility of movement due to the up and down action of the saw blade.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE DRILL PRESS***

1. Small work pieces should be held securely in a drill press vice.

2. Long work pieces should be positioned so that the long end is on the operator’s left.

3. Holes over ½ inch should be drilled at the lowest speed.

4. Be sure the drill bit is centered and securely fastened in the chuck.

5. Remove the chuck key from the chuck immediately after using it.

6. Never attempt to grab a piece of stock that is rotating with the drill bit. Step to one side of the machine, shut it off, and wait for the work piece to come to a complete stop.

7. Set the drill press table and the quill stop so that the drill bit does not go through the workpieces and into the table.

8. Support round stock in a drill press vice or on “V” blocks during drilling operations.

9. Back off on the feed pressure when the drill bit begins to break through the workpiece.

***SAFETY RULES FOR THE BELT DISK SANDER***

1. Check to see that the abrasive disc/belt is not torn or loose before starting the machine.

2. Keep your hands at least 4 inches away from the moving abrasive belt/disc at all times.

3. ***NEVER*** attempt to smooth very small work pieces that might be caught between the sander table and the disc/belt.

4. Do not force a sharp point or corner of a work piece against the abrasive belt or disc.

5. Always hold the work piece firmly in contact with the sander table as it is lightly pressed against the abrasive.

6. When using the disc sander, ***ALWAYS*** smooth the work piece on the **DOWNWARD** travel side of the disc.

7. If the sander’s abrasive belt does not “run true” over the sander plate, turn off the power and report the problem to the instructor immediately.