

Drill Press Safety

As with all operations, there are some invaluable rules to follow to protect yourself from injury when using your Drill Press. Here is a list:

- **Read your Drill Press owner's manual and follow the guidelines presented there.**
- **NEVER** leave the chuck key in the chuck. **ALWAYS** remove it before turning on the machine.
- Wear proper eye, dust and ear protection
- Lock the table tilt trunion and down tubes firmly in position before you turn on the machine.
- Keep hands, fingers, etc. at least 3" away from the moving drill bit at all times.
- Roll your sleeves up above your elbows, remove all jewelry and tuck long hair under a cap.
- **NEVER** wear gloves when working with stationary power tools.
- Position the worktable so the stock is properly supported at all times.
- Whenever possible, clamp the workpiece to the worktable for added safety.
- **NEVER** try to stop the machine rotation by grabbing the Drill Chuck.
- Never try to chuck a drill bit with a tapered square shank in your Drill Chuck. Use only straight shanked bits.
- Always try to work with the table at mid-chest for maximum visibility and control.
- If you must use an auger-type bit with a screw-type lead (not recommended), always pre-drill a pilot hole that's the same diameter as the largest diameter of your screw lead to prevent potential grabbing. This is especially true when working with hardwoods. Auger bits with spur-type (non-screw) pilots are preferred.
- If you must create a hole that's larger than an available hole saw (our recommendation for boring large holes), use a scroll saw, bandsaw, saber saw, hand-operated saw or routing set-up. Shopsmith **Does Not Recommend** the use of adjustable, beam-type circle cutters or *flycutters*. These tools are very dangerous, even when your workpiece is clamped solidly to the worktable.
- **ALWAYS** turn off and unplug the machine before changing modes of operation or performing maintenance procedures.