

Risk Assessment - Bandsaws #201

Risk Assessment performed on behalf of Leicester Hackspace Ltd 08833126

This risk assessment is intended to provide guidance on the risk associated with the above equipment and activities in normal use. Please also check general risk assessments for the space as a whole. Any discrepancies, errors or concerns should be raised with the document maintainers or the directors - do not edit this assessment directly. For responsible persons and last update, see below.

Activity

Cutting material with bandsaw.



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Date released	Last reviewed	Next review
03/09/26	-	Sep 2027

#	Identify Hazards	Risk	Who may be harmed	Severity	Control Measures	Likelihood	Risk Rating
1	Electricity	Electric shock	User	High	All electrical equipment should be checked for electrical safety prior to use. Equipment must not be used unless they have a PAT test label on. It is the users responsibility to do a visual check of the equipment. If any defects are found (i.e. cracked casing, defect in lead etc) the equipment is not to be used, to be quarantined, safety officer informed, and a defect label attached. Induction covers inspection of equipment before usage.	Low	Med
2	Misuse of equipment	Damage to user or equipment	User, Bystander	High	Members are inducted into the correct use of the equipment and understand associated risks. Members are unable to use equipment until induction has been completed and approved. Members found to be deliberately misusing equipment may have their use of the equipment restricted or revoked altogether.	Low	Med
3	Blade	Contact with cutting edge causing injury	User	High	Do not put hands into a position where they can come in contact with the blade. Use a push stick and the fence provided when making straight cuts. Do not move hands past the blade. Saw should not be moving whilst the station is not actively in use for cutting or left unattended. Members should stop the machine after use using the stop button or brake if fitted. Correct usage is covered in induction.	Med	Med
4	Blade	Blade snatching, jamming or breaking	User, Bystander	High	Only cut wood and plastic on the small band saw. The large bandsaw should be only used to cut wood across the grain, plastic, sheet materials and non-ferrous metal (Note: A larger blade is available for ripping wood and can be fitted by competent persons). Ensure a visual inspection of the band saw is undertaken before every use for physical obstructions and blade condition. Do not force material through the saw. Do not attempt to make sharp angle cuts in one attempt. Correct cutting techniques and material usage are covered in the induction	Low	Med
5	Gloves, loose clothing, loose hair	Drawing in (being pulled into the saw)	User	High	Users of the saw should not wear gloves, ties, scarves, or loose clothing that could get pulled into the blade. Members are informed about proper attire during their induction.	Low	Med

6	Dust	Inhalation, fire	User, Bystander	Med	Dust extraction should be used at all all times whilst the machine is in use. The saw should be cleaned down on completion of use; this should include inside the machine doors. A respirator or mask should be used whilst operating this tool for prolonged periods. Use of dust extraction, proper cleaning, and location of respirators are covered in the induction.	Low	Low
7	Noise	Hearing damage	User, Bystander	Med	Ear protection is provided for use. Risks and location of ear protection are covered in induction.	Med	Low
8	Flying Splinters	Eye damage	User, Bystander	High	Eye protection must be worn In the workshop at all times. Risks and location of eye protection are covered in the induction.	Low	Med
9	Other members	Distraction	User, Bystander	High	The "do not disturb" light should be used when operating the bandsaw to avoid accidents being caused by distraction of the user.	Low	Med