

## Belt and Disc Sander Safety and Operating Procedures

Abrasive sanding can be hazardous to operators and bystanders. Sanding sparks, chips and dust particles thrown off by the sanding disc can cause serious injury by contact or inhalation. To avoid injuries you must comply with the following safety requirements:

1. Wear a dust mask or respirator when using the belt/disc sander for prolonged periods of time.
2. Attach the vacuum hose to the proper (belt or sanding disc) debris duct.
3. Try to position yourself so that sanding dust will not be thrown toward the breathing zone.
4. Adjust the belt tracking mechanism so the sanding belt does not touch the machine housing when rotating.
5. Adjust the disc table to achieve the desired angle on the stock being sanded. The table can be adjusted up to 45 degrees on most sanders.
6. Do not overreach. Do not reach across the sanding disc to turn the sander on or off. Your arm or hand may touch the edge of the rotating disc and cause a serious cut or entanglement. Move to the front of the sander and turn the machine off.
7. Do not allow hands or fingers to touch the belt or disc when sanding.
8. Keep work areas clean and well lit. Cluttered areas invite accidents.
9. Never leave the machine running while unattended.
10. Never brush away chips while the machine is in operation.
11. Before sanding, always allow the motor to come up to operating speed then check the sanding disc for wobble, runout, or any unbalanced condition. If the disc is not operating accurately and smoothly, immediately stop the motor and inform the workshop personnel that repairs are required before attempting any sanding operations.
12. Always present the workpiece to the wheel while resting the workpiece firmly on the table. Failure to do so could result in damage to the workpiece or throwing of the workpiece off the wheel.
13. If the sanding disc rotates in a counterclockwise direction, position the material to be sanded from the center of the disc to the left edge. If positioned in this manner the sanding action will help to hold the stock down on the table. If the stock is positioned from the center of the disc to the right edge of the disc the sanding action will pick the edge of the stock up and created an unsafe condition.
14. Hold stock steady as it is being sanded, apply firm, but not excessive pressure to stock being sanded but do not put so much pressure on the sanding disc or belt that the sander slows down.
15. Use the miter head to hold and move stock when a precise angle must be sanded on the material.
16. When finished, ALWAYS clean up the sander, table, and floor area.

# Identification of Basic Belt and Disc Sander Parts

