



Angle grinders are a great power tool for performing many job tasks. Interchangeable spinning discs allow angle grinders to grind, cut, sand, and polish, making them ideal for metal and masonry work. Improper use of angle grinders can lead to serious injury or death, so it is essential for workers to know the potential risks.

Risks associated with angle grinders

The use of angle grinders may create the following hazards for workers:

- Flying materials— leading to cuts, abrasions, and significant eye injury
- Inhalation of dust
- Fires/explosions
- Hearing damage

Inspect the grinder

- Make sure that the manufactured guard is in place. Never use a tool that is missing a manufacturer required safety device.
- Make sure to select the correct wheel for the job.
- Always inspect the wheel for cracks and then replace if there are any. This can cause the wheel to break easily.



Use the grinder properly

- Allow the grinder to reach full speed before cutting or grinding.
- Make sure to use two hands on the angle grinder/use it as the manufacturer intended.
- If the tool is corded, use a GFCI-protected outlet.

Choose the right PPE

- Always wear the required personal protective equipment. This includes a face shield and safety glasses. Depending on the work, gloves, aprons, safety toe boots, hearing protection, and respiratory protection may be required.
- Avoid wearing loose fitting clothing or jewelry that can easily be caught in the moving components of the tool.