

Preventing Cuts from Sharp Stuff

Knives

Make the Workplace Safer

- Provide knives that are the right size and type for each job.
- Provide box cutters for opening boxes.
- Provide proper storage for knives (counter racks, wall racks, or storage blocks).
- Allow workers enough time to work safely.

DID YOU KNOW?

Workers under 16 are not allowed to bake, and they can only do light cooking with electric or gas grills that do not involve cooking on an open flame.

Follow Safe Work Practices

- Keep knives sharp. Dull knives are unsafe.
- Never leave knives soaking in water.
- Place a damp cloth under your cutting board to keep it from slipping.
- If you are interrupted while cutting, put the knife down in a flat, safe place.
- Pass a knife to another person by laying it on a counter, or pass with blade pointed down.
- Let a falling knife fall. Step back. Warn others. Never try to catch the knife.
- Carry and store knives in sheaths or protective cases when possible.
- When cutting, tuck in fingers on the hand that's holding the food.

DID YOU KNOW?

Workers under 18 are not allowed to use, clean, take apart, or assemble large electrical appliances, such as automatic slicers and bakery machines.

Use Protective Clothing and Equipment

- If you're doing a lot of cutting, wear cut-resistant gloves that cover the wrists, fit well, and have sturdy, tightly-woven seams.



Slicers, Grinders, Food Processors

Make the Workplace Safer

- Equip large electrical appliances with machine guards.
- Keep cords, plugs, outlets, housings, and blades in good repair.
- Keep electrical outlets free of cracks and grease to avoid short circuits.
- Place electrical equipment away from water.

Follow Safe Work Practices

- Before using a machine, make sure guards are in place.
- Keep hands, face, hair, clothing, and jewelry away from moving parts.
- Always use lockout/tagout procedure when cleaning or repairing electrical equipment.
A machine is locked out if a special locking mechanism is used so no one can turn it on, often at the plug or power circuit. In addition, it must be tagged out, which means that a written warning is attached to the power source telling people not to remove the locking mechanism or turn on the power.
- Keep floors dry near electrical equipment and outlets.

Use Protective Clothing and Equipment

- Wear cut-resistant gloves, goggles, sleevelets, and arm protectors when operating equipment.

Glass and Dishware

Make the Workplace Safer

- Designate one clearly-marked trash can for broken glass and sharp can lids.
- Store glasses, bottles, and dishware away from areas with a lot of foot traffic.
- Store glasses in racks. Don't stack them directly on top of each other.

Follow Safe Work Practices

- Use heavy-duty plastic or metal scoops for food or ice, not drinking glasses.
- Don't use chipped or cracked glasses or dishware.
- When cleaning up broken glass, use a dustpan and broom.

Use Protective Clothing and Equipment

- Wear gloves and goggles if necessary when cleaning up broken glass.
- Wear gloves or use a towel when removing lids from glass jars.