



ABRASIVE WHEELS

are wheels that can cut or grind. They are found in bench grinders and portable grinders. Bench grinders are stationary and can reach up to 3,600 rpm. Portable grinders are hand tools that can reach up to 12,000 rpm. The main hazards of grinders are removed guards, improper maintenance, sparks, and exploding damaged or faulty wheels. Injuries can include burns, lacerations, shock or electrocution, and severe injury or death. Follow all manufacturer guidelines and best work practices.

EXAMPLE BEST PRACTICES

- Complete a pre-use inspection.
- Do not use wheels that are outdated or damaged.
- Do not use wheels that are less than the rpm of the machine (must be equal or greater).
- Pick the right wheel for the machine and task.
- Ring test when changing to a new wheel.
- Keep all guards in place (unless changing wheels).
- Adjust guards as needed to keep the required distance from the wheel.
- Maintain equipment.
- Wear all required PEE – face shielded and/or goggles.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Tie back and contain loose hair.
- Use two hands when operating portable grinders.
- Keep hands away from bench grinder wheels.
- Do not grind aluminum!

WHAT TO DO!

- Speak to your supervisor to receive training.
- Bring questions and injuries to your supervisor!
- Follow best practices and manufacturer’s guidelines.
- For bench grinders, adjust your work rest to 1/8th of an inch and tongue guard to 1/4th of an inch.
- Ensure at all portable grinders have guards!
- Direct additional questions to EHS.
- If working outside your designated area, you may need a hot work permit. Contact uofm@uoregon.edu.
- In an emergency, call 911 and UOPD (541-346-2919) for immediate assistance!



Ring test new or potentially damaged wheels!



Do a pre-use inspection for damage!



Keep guards in place!

