

Safe use of power tools: Preliminary Design and Technology

Answers

Activity

Examine the information in relation to the use of power tools on the following web site <http://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/safety_haz/electrical.html>.

1. List five issues related to the safe use of power tools.

Issues relating to the safe use of power tools

- Switch tools off before connecting them to a power supply.
- Disconnect power supply before making adjustments.
- Ensure tools are properly grounded or double-insulated. The grounded tool must have an approved 3-wire cord with a 3-pin plug. This plug should be plugged in a properly grounded general purpose outlet (GPO).
- Do not bypass the switch and operate the tools by connecting and disconnecting the power cord.
- Do not use electrical tools in wet conditions or damp locations.
- Do not clean tools with flammable or toxic solvents.
- Do not operate tools in an area containing explosive vapours or gases.

2. List five issues related to the safe use of power cords.

Issues relating to the safe use of power cords

- Keep power cords clear of tools during use.
- Suspend power cords over aisles or work areas to eliminate stumbling or tripping hazards.
- Do not use light-duty power cords.
- Do not carry electrical tools by the power cord.
- Do not tie power cords in tight knots. Knots can cause short circuits and shocks. Loop the cords or use a twist lock plug.