

7 easy steps for angle grinder safety

1. Choose the right grinder for the job and follow the manufacturer's safety instructions. Grinders cause more injuries than any other power tool. Do not use a bigger, more powerful grinder than is necessary.
2. Only buy a grinder that has an automatic cut off switch (usually called a dead man's switch). This is designed to cut off power as soon as finger pressure is released.
3. Use the right-sized disc for the grinder and make sure the locking nut is tight. Ensure the disc is suitable for grinding the material you have selected and ensure the disc can be used at the grinder's maximum speed. It is common for unsuitable discs to shatter and cause injuries.
4. Ensure the cutting blades (e.g. multi-cutter blades) are never used on grinders. They are not designed for this purpose.
5. Never remove the safety guard from a hand held grinder. Bench grinders should be secured to a bench and allowed to run free for a minute before use.
6. Always wear protective gear, including safety goggles, when operating an angle grinder. Injuries to the eyes are commonly associated with angle grinders.
7. Use the grinder at an angle of 15 to 30 degrees. This will reduce the risk of a powerful kick back.



For more information on product safety, visit www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au or www.productsafety.gov.au