



DRILL PRESS SAFETY RULES

The drill press is a versatile machine that uses a multiple cutting-edged drill bit secured in a rotating chuck to bore and drill holes, normally into wood stock. These machines have variable speeds and some have multiple spindles for gang drilling. Any uses other than drilling holes are special setups and must be approved by the instructor. The following rules must be followed when using a drill press:



- The procedure of changing spindle speed varies from drill press to drill press. Check with your instructor prior to making speed adjustments.
- Be certain that the table and head of the drill press are secure.
- Select the proper drill bit for the job and avoid dull bits.
- Insert the drill bit in the chuck properly and tighten it securely before starting the drill press.
- Remove the chuck key before turning on the power and before leaving the area of the drill press. If the chuck key is not removed it will be thrown out from the chuck at a tremendous speed when the power is turned on.
- Use clamps or a drill vise to secure the work piece.
- Larger bits should be run at slower speeds and smaller bits at higher speeds. This keeps the cutting edge of the bit at a reasonable speed.
- Use a backer board under the work or be sure the bit is over the center hole in the table when boring completely through your work.
- Keep hands away from the rotating spindle.
- Operate the feed lever so that drill cuts at a consistent feed rate into work.
- Ease up on feed pressure when the bit begins to break through the work.
- Back the bit out often to clear chips from the hole.
- When boring to a given depth, use the depth adjustment nut or feature.
- Stop the drill press before removing your work.
- If work comes loose and is seized by the drill press, shut off the power immediately if you can do so without endangering yourself. If it is impossible to shut off the power, move away from the machine and move others away. Notify the instructor immediately.