

# Drill Press Safety

**Follow these safety rules when using a drill press:**

Use a drill bit with a straight shank – never a square one.

Use slow speed for large holes and a faster speed for smaller holes.

Clamp work securely, especially when operating the drill press at high speeds.

Keep your hair and loose clothing away from all moving parts. Always wear eye protection.

Place the drill bit in the chuck straight and tighten it securely.

Always remove the chuck key before starting the machine.

When preparing the setup, make sure the drill bit will not mar the vise or table. Place a piece of scrap stock under the work to be drilled.

Clamp cylindrical (round) stock in a V-block before drilling.

Keep your fingers at least 4 inches away from the rotating tool.

Remove chips and shavings with a brush or stick, never your fingers.

Feed the drill or bit smoothly into the workpiece. When the hole is deep, withdraw the bit often to clear the shavings.

Check the setup carefully before doing special operations such as shaping or sanding.

On a variable speed machine, change the speed while the machine is operating. On a step pulley machine, disconnect the power before making any changes.