Sander Safety

Follow these safety rules when using a power sander:

Be certain the sanding belt or disc is correctly mounted. The belt must track in the center of the rollers and platen.

Make sure the guards and worktable adjustments are securely locked.

Use the worktable, fence, and other guides to control the position of the work, whenever possible. Position the table 1/16 inch from the sanding belt or disc.

Hold small or irregular shaped pieces in a hand clamp, or make a special jig or fixture to hold them.

Do not use power sanders to shape parts when the operations could be performed better using other machines.

Sand only clean, new wood. Do not sand work that has excess glue or finish on the surface. These materials will ruin the abrasive.

Keep the stock in motion when sanding to prevent burning due to friction.

Be sure to wear a dusk mask.

Using Stationary Belt Sanders

When sanding the end grain of narrow pieces on the belt sander, always support the work against the worktable.

Feed the stock directly against the sanding belt. Never feed it in from the left or right as it may catch and rip or pull the belt off.

Using Stationary Disc Sanders

Do not operate the disc sander if the sanding paper is loose. Make sure the adhesive is holding the sanding disc tightly to the platen.

Sand only on the side of the disc that is moving downward, toward the table. Check the rotation of the disc. Some rotate clockwise, others counterclockwise.