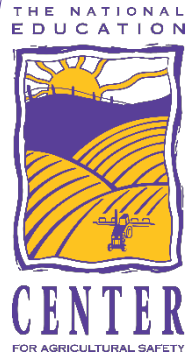


Chainsaw Safety



<https://www.stihlusa.com/guides-projects/a/ms-500i-technology/>

This material was produced under a Susan Harwood Training Grant (SH-39184-22-60-F-19) from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U. S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U. S. Government. The U.S. Government does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed.

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FOR AGRICULTURAL SAFETY

Who We Are

A Partnership in Safety and Health Between:



NECAS does not promote or endorse any brands or products: pictures and information are for educational use.

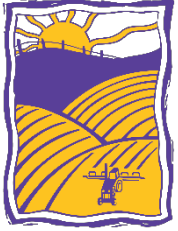
This course is designed for basic safety considerations when operating a chain saw: it is not intended to instruct operators in advanced maintenance or repair techniques, forestry operations, or felling timber.

It is the operator's responsibility to read and follow the owner's manual and manufacturer recommendations.

It is the operator's responsibility to understand the OSHA regulations that apply to their operation.

About Us

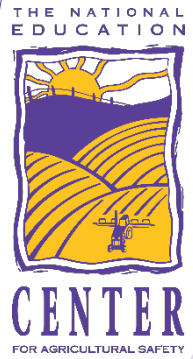
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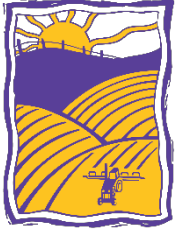
- ▶ Dedicated to preventing illnesses, injuries, and deaths among farmers, their families, and agricultural workers
- ▶ To date, our trainings have saved 33 lives nationwide!
- ▶ Part of NICC Business and Community Solutions, the customized training, workforce development, and continuing education division of Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC)
- ▶ Provide safety trainings to business and industry, such as hazardous materials training, forklift operator, construction flagger, and more
- ▶ Provide safety and rescue training to fire departments and corporate safety & rescue teams

Our Office



Training Facilities On-Site

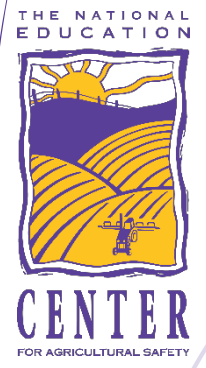
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Mobile Trainings & Props



Objectives

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- Identify the basic chainsaw parts
- Describe proper chainsaw chain tension
- List proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Discuss how to choose the proper chainsaw
- Describe the proper way to start a chainsaw
- Discuss the reasons for chainsaw kickback and how to prevent it
- List various chainsaw safety devices

Basic Gas-Powered Chainsaw Anatomy

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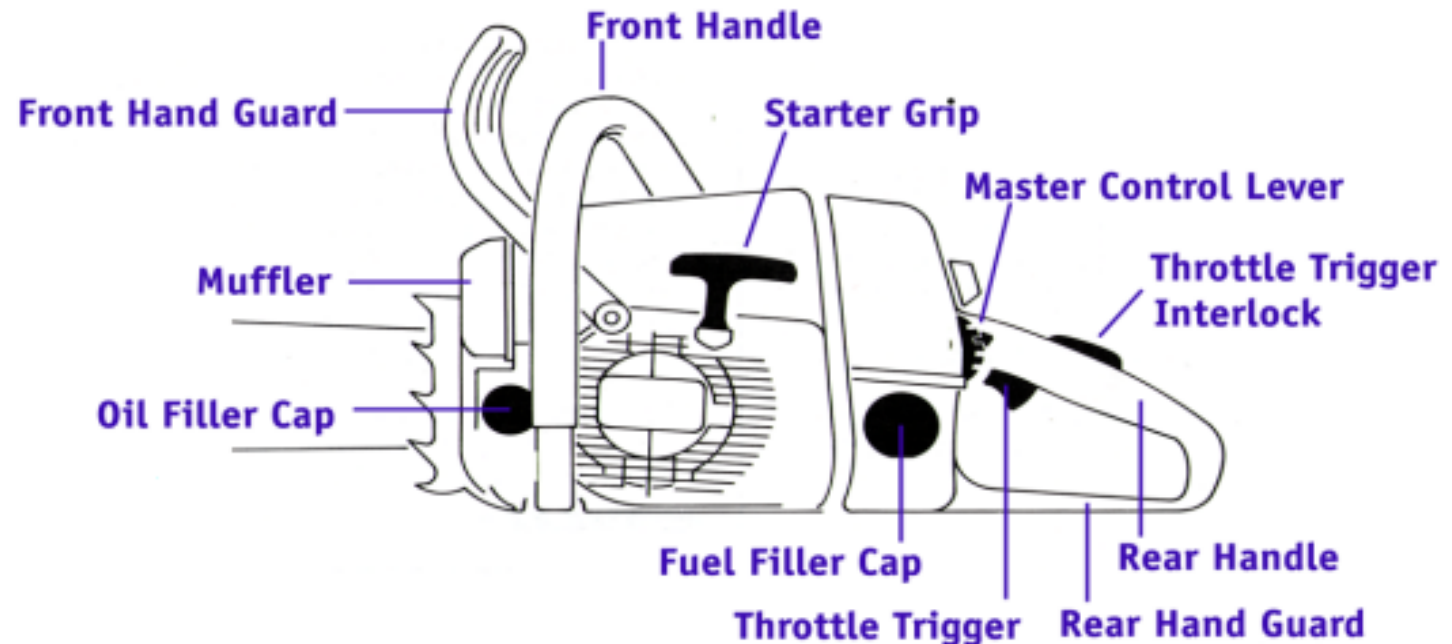
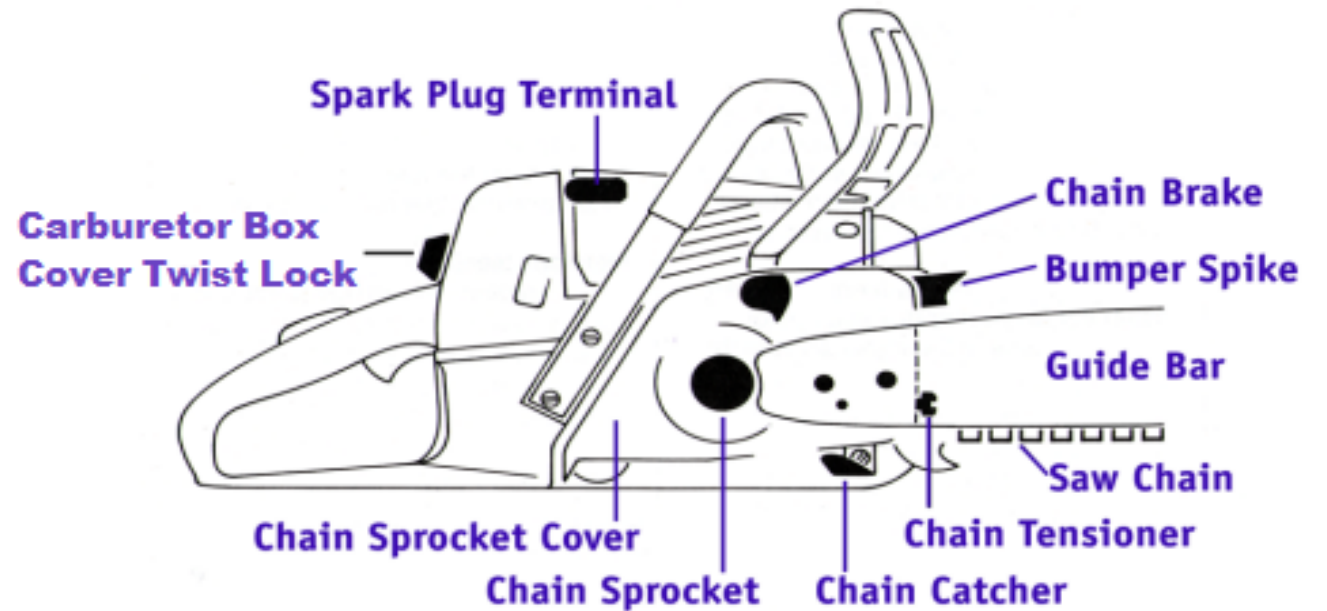


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This is a general diagram of common chainsaw parts.

Different brands may have different part locations.

Always read and follow the owner's manual and manufacturer recommendations

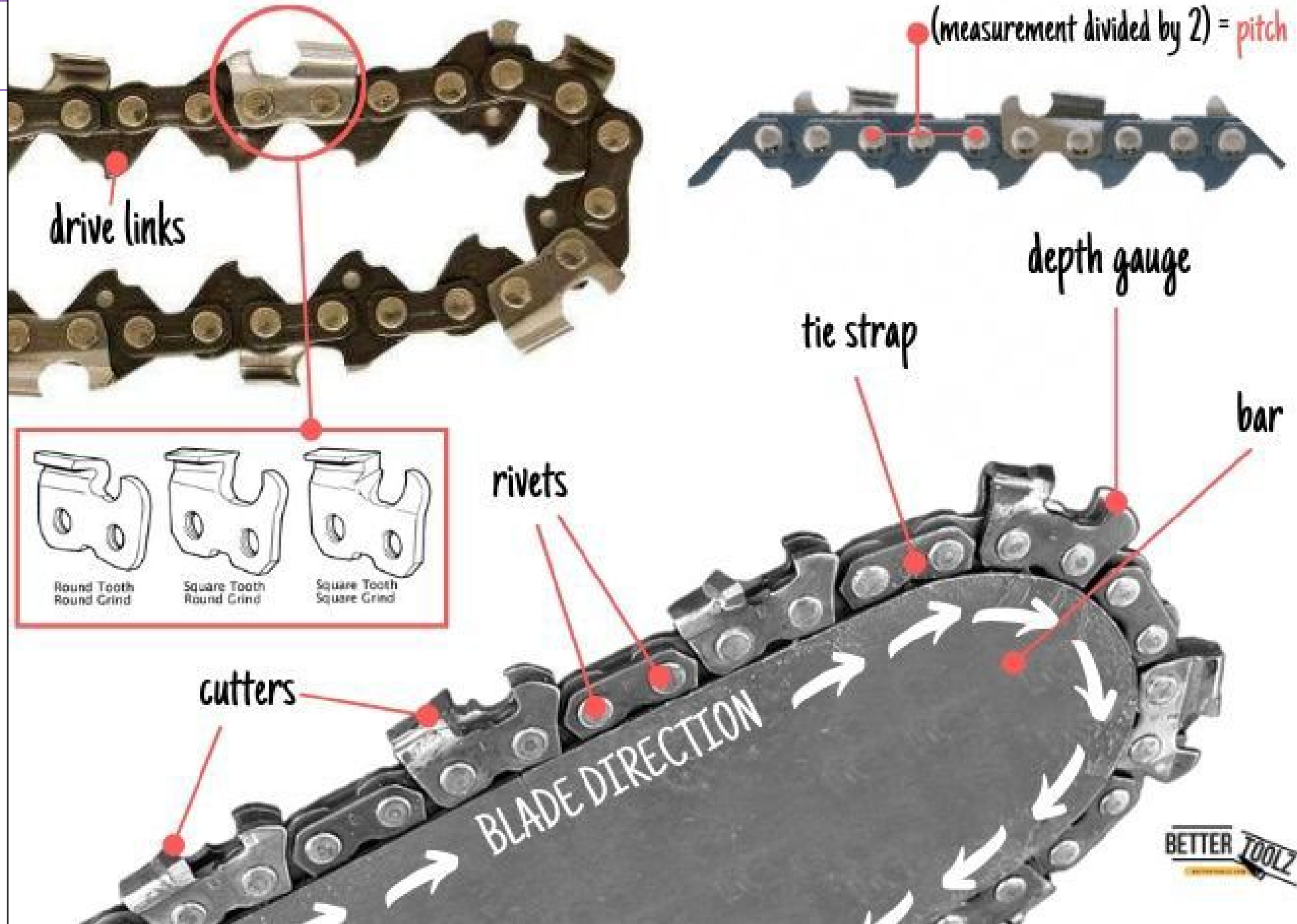


Chain Anatomy

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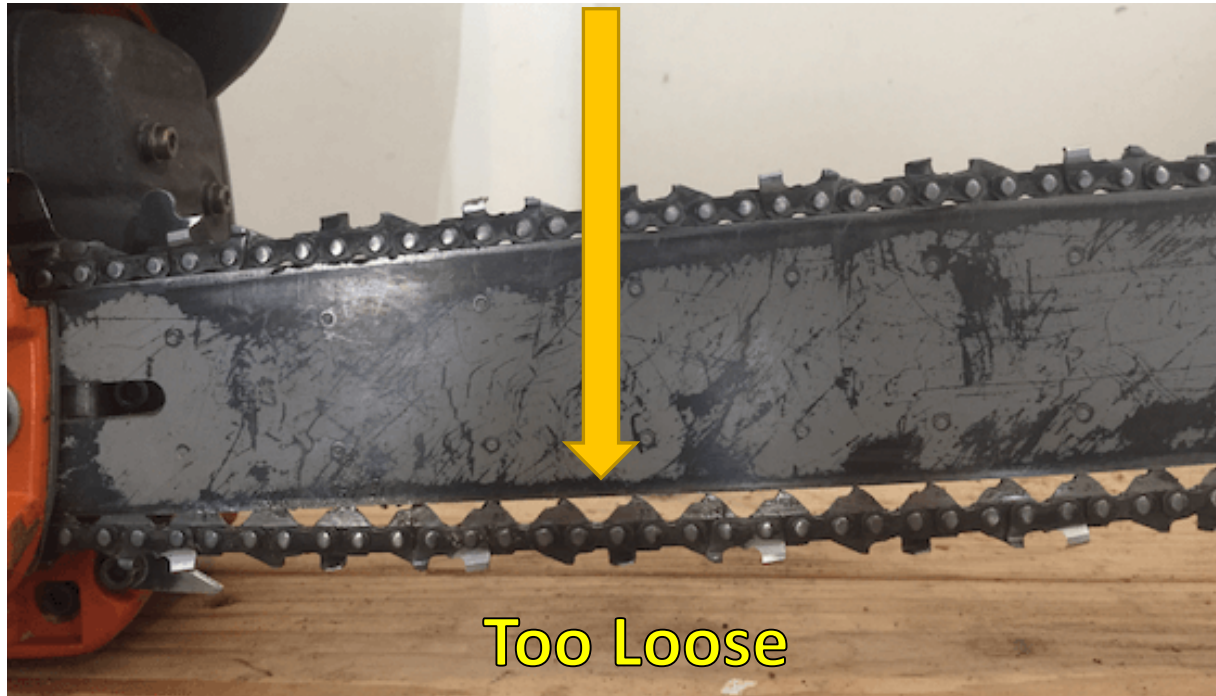


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Chain Tension

Visible sag in the chain indicates that it is too loose



<https://www.firewood-for-life.com/chainsaw-chain-tension.html>

If there is barely any “give” in the chain when pulled on, that indicates that the chain is too tight

Too Tight: chain won't bite into the wood and can prematurely wear out your drive sprocket

Too Loose: chain can derail from the bar and whip back towards you



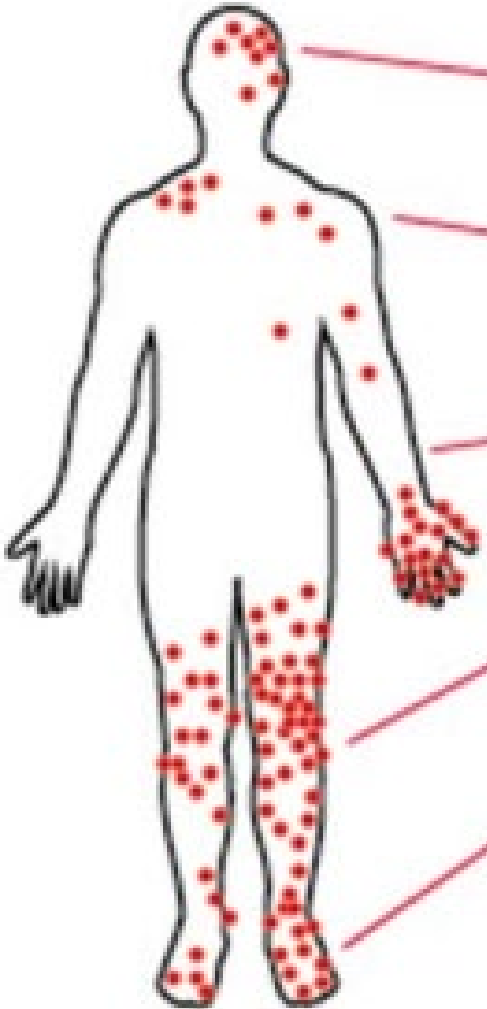
Properly Tensioned Chain



<https://www.firewood-for-life.com/chainsaw-chain-tension.html>

The chain separates itself from the bar; it should “give” about ¼-inch from the bar without much effort. Once released, it easily retracts and stays firmly positioned on the bar.

Chainsaws Can Be Dangerous



Head Injuries **3,418**

Upper Body Area **2,141**

Arm and Hand Area **17,994**

Leg Area **16,348**

Foot Area **2,885**

Accident location and frequency
as related to chain saw use (1994)

U.S. Product Safety Commission

- ▶ The CDC estimates 36,000 people are treated in emergency rooms annually for chainsaw injuries
- ▶ The average chainsaw injury requires 110 stitches
- ▶ Medical costs for chainsaw injuries, on average, exceed \$350 million per year

(U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission)

Personal Protective Equipment

➡ Head



➡ Hearing



➡ Face



➡ Eye



➡ Leg



➡ Foot



➡ Arm



➡ Hand



Earmuff: ANSI S3.19
(NRR-Noise Reduction Rating)

Head Protection:
OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266(d)(1)(vi)

Combination Head/Face/Hearing Protection Examples

Hardhat: ANSI Z89.1
Visor: ANSI/ISEA Z87.1

Face Protection:
OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266(d)(1)(vii)(B)



Oregon Pro Forestry Helmet System

- Helmet with 6 point ratcheting suspension
- High Impact resistant ABS plastic
- Stainless steel mesh screen face protection
- Earmuffs rated at a NRR value of 23db

Husqvarna Functional Forest Helmet System

- Helmet with 6 point ratcheting suspension
- Polyethylene plastic with high UV and chemical resistance
 - Nylon/Metal mesh visor
- Earmuffs rated at a NRR value of 24db

Stihl Pro Mark Helmet System

- Helmet with 6 point ratcheting suspension
 - ABS thermoplastic shell
 - Steel mesh full face screen
- Earmuffs rated at a NRR value of 25db

Hearing Protection

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Job Site Sound Levels (dBA)

Grader, scraper (107)

Jackhammer (102)

Bulldozer (100)

Concrete Saw (98)

Forklift (93)

Belt Sander (90)

OSHA recommends
that employees
not be exposed
to noise levels
greater than
85 dBA

Everyday Sound Levels (dBA)

Jet engine at takeoff,
gunshot (140)

Chain Saw (110)

Wood Shop (100)

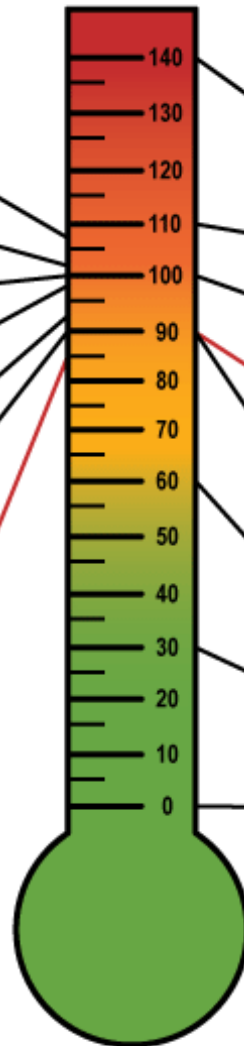
OSHA permissible
exposure limit (90)

Power lawn mower at
operator's ear (90)

Normal Conversation (60)

Whispered Voice (30)

Threshold of
unimpaired hearing (0)



Safety Glasses: ANSI Z87.1

Eye Protection:

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266(d)(1)(vii)(A)

Eye Protection Examples



Nemesis Safety Glasses

- Polycarbonate Lenses
- UVA/UVB/UVC Protection



WoodlandPRO Wire Mesh Safety Glasses

- 20 gauge galvanized black wire mesh



Husqvarna Xtreme Protective Glasses

- Polycarbonate lenses
- UV protection



Smith & Wesson Equalizer Safety Glasses

- Polycarbonate lenses
- UVA/UVB/UVC Protection

The Importance of Wearing Eye Protection



https://www.reddit.com/r/pics/comments/4npyfu/safety_specs_saved_this_guys_eye_from_an/

<https://twitter.com/tjconnorstweets/status/1082300687034179584/photo/1>

ASTM F1897-20: "Standard Specification for Leg Protection for Chain Saw Users"
ASTM F1414-19: "Standard test method for measurement of cut resistance to chain saw in lower body (legs) protective clothing"

Leg Protection Examples

Leg Protection: OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266(d)(1)(iv)



WoodlandPRO Work Safe Apron Chainsaw Chaps

- 2 layers of Dupont Kevlar
- Denier ultra nylon covering
- Two layers of polyester felt for padding
- UL Certified to ASTM standards



Husqvarna Technical Apron Wrap Chainsaw Chaps

- 5 layers TEK WARP protection material
- Denier polyester-PVC coating
- UL Certified to ASTM standards



SIP Canopy W-Air Chainsaw Protection Pants

- Dyneema chainsaw protection (class 1)
- Water and dirt repellent Teflon coating
- Reinforced Pezeflex Aqua knee guards



Stihl Pro Mark Apron Chaps-9 layer

- 9 layers of Avertic® Pro by Engtex® cut retardant material



Posted by u/Mack21 5 years ago

Witnessed my cousin suffer from a simple chainsaw accident. It's more than enough for me to put down my saw until my new chaps come in. Seriously guys, wrap them up. It happens faster than you can imagine.



US Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District Website

Contractor's near-miss accident highlights the importance of safety gear

A USACE Contractor working a debris removal mission in Southwest Georgia, shown wearing safety protective chaps, following a near-miss accident with a chainsaw. Wearing chaps protected the contractor from a potentially severe leg injury.

Foot Protection Examples



Stihl Pro Mark Chainsaw Boots

- GORE-TEX inner fabric
- Padded steel toe
 - Rubber sole
- Meets OSHA requirements for protective footwear in chainsaw use
- Meets EN17249 (Class 2 [chainsaw speeds of 24 m/s]) requirements for chainsaw protective boots

EN ISO 17249 (European Standard): Safety footwear with resistance to chainsaw cutting

Foot Protection: OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266(d)(1)(v)

ASTM F1458-04: Standard test method for measurement of cut resistance to chainsaw of foot protective devices

ASTM F1818-13: Standard specification for foot protection for chainsaw users



Haix Airpower XR200 Chainsaw Protective Boots

- Puncture resistant sole
- Electrical hazard protection
- Meets EN17249 (Class 1 [chainsaw speeds of 20 m/s])



Viking® Bushwhacker Boots VW58-1

- Electrical hazard protection
- Meets EN17249 (Class 3 [chainsaw speeds of 28 m/s])
- Grade 1 Steel toe and plate

CE PPE Categories

- **Category I:** PPE intended to protect users against minimal risks, as defined by the exhaustive list in Annex I;
- **Category II:** Equipment falling into neither Category I or Category III;
- **Category III:** PPE intended to protect users against very serious risk such as death or irreversible damage to health as defined by the exhaustive list in Annex I

Arm Protection Examples



Southern Glove 18" Cut Resistant Kevlar Sleeve

- DuPont double ply Kevlar



SIP Arborist Sleeve and upper Hand w/360 Chainsaw Protective Material

- CE PPE Category 1



Stihl Pro Mark Cut-Retardant Shirt

- Multiple layers of protective Avertic™ Pro by Engtex®, a cut-retardant material, sewn into the sleeves, collar, and shoulders
- Mesh body with vented back

"I felt like, 'OK, I just need to get off this ladder to get away,'" he recalled. "I wasn't even that high up on the ladder, you know, maybe only five or six rungs. But I thought I needed to get down just in case this thing snaps back to the ground."

In that moment, Sharp said he forgot the important intermediary step of turning off the chainsaw, which was still running as he held it with his right hand. "So yeah, my thought was, 'get off the ladder, not, turn this off and then get off the ladder,'" he explained.

"It was idling as I came down the ladder. I accidentally pulled the trigger and the throttle and drove it into my hand."

Just as the sharp edges of the cutting chain fell onto the knuckles of Sharp's left hand, he said he instinctively tried to throw the machine clear.

"It happened so fast, it's hard to know, but I drove it into my hand, and then as I was throwing the saw off to just get it away from me, it cut my arm," he said.

The saw tore into the flesh of Sharp's upper left arm, a few inches above the elbow, slicing through muscles, veins, nerves and tendons but barely missing the main artery. It also didn't reach the bone, he added.



Stitches on Scott Sharp's left arm two days after chainsaw accident, Cedar City, Utah, March 16, 2022 | Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Sharp, St. George News / Cedar City News

Hand Protection Examples



Stihl Pro Mark Dynamic Protective Gloves

- Multiple layers of cut-retardant materials – Avertic™ Pro and Dyneema fabrics by Engtex®
- Palm and inner fingers made of full-grain tanned leather
 - Velcro wrist closure



Stihl Dynamic Cut-Retardant Mitts

- Avertic™ Pro by Engtex® sewn into back of left glove
- Mitt-style gloves have a separate index finger for chainsaw throttle operation



Husqvarna Functional Chainsaw Protection Gloves

- Cut resistant material in left hand
- Goat leather double palm with foam laminated spandex
- Nylon neoprene knuckles

First Aid Kits

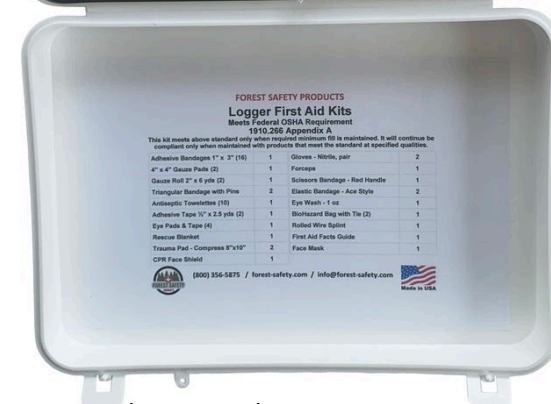
OSHA 29 CFR 1910.266 Appendix A

“The following list sets forth the minimally acceptable number and type of first-aid supplies for first-aid kits required under paragraph (d)(2) of the logging standard. The contents of the first-aid kit listed should be adequate for small work sites, consisting of approximately two to three employees. When larger operations or multiple operations are being conducted at the same location, additional first-aid kits should be provided at the work site or additional quantities of supplies should be included in the first-aid kits:”

1. Gauze pads (at least 4 x 4 inches).
2. Two large gauze pads (at least 8 x 10 inches).
3. Box adhesive bandages (band-aids).
4. One package gauze roller bandage at least 2 inches wide.
5. Two triangular bandages.
6. Wound cleaning agent such as sealed moistened towelettes.
7. Scissors.
8. At least one blanket.
9. Tweezers.
10. Adhesive tape.
11. Latex gloves. (Nitrile preferred due to latex allergies)
12. Resuscitation equipment such as resuscitation bag, airway, or pocket mask.
13. Two elastic wraps.
14. Splint.
15. Directions for requesting emergency assistance.



Commercially available first aid kit;
marketed as OSHA 1910.266 Appendix A compliant



<https://forest-safety.com/collections/loggerfirstaidtrauma/products/logger-first-aid-kit>

Other First Aid Considerations:

- **Take a first aid and CPR Course**

(Some states may require both when on a worksite)

Consider adding a commercially available tourniquet such as a C-A-T (Combat Application Tourniquet)



Consider adding a Stop The Bleed Kit

Some Stop the Bleed Kits may include a tourniquet

If adding tourniquets, stop the bleed kits, or both; Please seek out a recognized training course to learn proper use

When Calling For Help: Location, Location, Location

- Avoid working alone whenever possible
- Ensure everyone at the worksite knows the location in the event of emergency
- If you are working alone, make sure somebody knows where you are
 - Check in with them regularly
- Do you know where you are if you need to call for help?
 - Telling 911 “Turn right where the red barn used to be,” doesn’t help responders find you
 - Provide an address, GPS location, or specific directions from a known address or crossroads



<https://www.verywellhealth.com/before-you-call-911-on-a-cell-phone-1298351>



<https://www.hardincountyia.gov/485/Requesting-911-Address>



<https://www.rd.com/list/funniest-street-names/>



Choosing A Chainsaw

A chainsaw is a dangerous tool, especially in the hands of an inexperienced operator.

Things to look for:

- ▶ Choose a chainsaw sized according to the job and one equipped with built-in safety features.
- ▶ Look for one with kickback protection, such as a guide bar tip guard to prevent you from cutting with the tip of the chainsaw.
- ▶ A clearly-marked ON/OFF switch
- ▶ Chain brake with a front hand guard
- ▶ Safety throttle
- ▶ Chain catcher (in case the chain brakes)
- ▶ Rear hand guard
- ▶ Anti-vibration system (including a cushioned handle)
- ▶ Exhaust system that directs fumes away from the operator and is equipped with a spark arrester to prevent fires
- ▶ Chain bar cover for transportation and storage
- ▶ Low-kickback-type chain
- ▶ Bumper guard to protect the motor housing
- ▶ Tool kit for corrective and preventative maintenance.

Fueling a Chainsaw

- ▶ Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw.
- ▶ Use approved containers for transporting fuel to the saw.
- ▶ Ensure fuel is appropriate mixture for saw
- ▶ Use a funnel or a flexible hose when pouring fuel into the saw.
- ▶ **Dispense fuel at least 10 feet away from any sources of ignition. Do NOT SMOKE during fueling.**
- ▶ **Move at least 10 feet away from fueling area when starting the saw**

<https://www.baileyonline.com/no-spill-1-1-4-gallon-gas-can-red-carb-approved-ns-1415.html>



No-Spill 1-1/4 Gallon Gas Can (Red) CARB Approved

CARB (California Air Resources Board)

<https://www.lowes.com/pd/TRUFUEL-50-1-110-oz-Pre-Blended-2-Cycle-Fuel/1001840698>



TruFuel 50:1 Mix Ethanol Free Pre-Blended 2-Cycle Fuel

Ready-to-use, premixed fuel, engineered for 2-cycle engines using a 50:1 mix

Ethanol-free formula provides easier engine starting and smoother idling



Eagle 2-Gallon Type I Steel Safety Gas Can (Red) CARB Approved Meets OSHA and NFPA Code 30 Requirements UL, ULC, and FM Approved

<https://www.baileyonline.com/eagle-2-gallon-type-i-steel-safety-gas-can-red-carb-approved.html>

Carrying a Chainsaw

CORRECT

Carried by the handle with the bar facing backwards.

This is how the owners manual directs the user to transport the chainsaw when carried by hand.



Image: <https://ronayersmotorsports.com/Power-Equipment-Stihl-MS-661-C-M-Magnum-36-in-0-Greenville-NC-652cc8b7-7959-45f6-a7d0-ad60007d2860>

https://www.stihlusa.com/WebContent/CMSFileLibrary/InstructionManuals/Chainsaw-Safety-Manual_1.pdf



Image: <https://www.wildlandwarehouse.com/shop/true-north-saw-bar-cover/>

It may be permissible in certain circumstances to carry a saw on the shoulder

A Bar Protective Cover
MUST BE USED

if carrying on the shoulder

Image: <https://www.sciencephoto.com/media/1176976/view/man-carrying-chainsaw-on-his-shoulder>



DO NOT carry an unguarded saw bar on your shoulder! It puts the chain right next to your neck.



Image: <https://tvovermind.com/five-life-lessons-the-show-ax-men-teaches-us/>

Saw Preparation

- ▶ Sharpen chain teeth
- ▶ Check chain tension
- ▶ Ensure bolts, handles, and guards are in place and secure
- ▶ Check the controls
- ▶ Check the chain brake
- ▶ Make sure the clutch cover is not broken or exposing the chain or sprocket
- ▶ Ensure fuel and oil are full
- ▶ Ensure muffler is in place



Image: <https://workshopedia.com/how-to-use-a-chainsaw-sharpener/>



Image: Russo Power Equipment YouTube
"How to remove a chainsaw clutch cover and reset the chain brake"
<https://www.russopower.com/>



How to start a cold engine

- ▶ Activate the chain brake.
- ▶ Turn switch to “ON”
- ▶ If the saw is equipped with a purge bulb, press the bulb several times to prime the saw. Fuel should become visible.
- ▶ Activate the choke and (on certain models) press the decompression control.
- ▶ Pull the starter handle until the engine fires. If it does not run, adjust the choke and pull again until the saw starts.

How to start a hot engine

- ▶ Follow the above steps, but normally the chainsaw will not require the choke or purging.

Starting The Saw

DO NOT “Drop Start” the chainsaw
If the chain brake fails, you may not have enough control to keep from being injured



Gif: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation: Distributed by Warner Bros

Starting The Chainsaw: Method 1

Bracing the saw between your legs

- Place the base of the rear handle against your left thigh with the back of the right thigh over the top of the rear handle
- Hold the front handle firmly with your left hand. Make sure to keep your left arm straight.
- Pull the starter handle with your right hand (following the manufacturer starting procedure)
Repeat until the engine fires.



Starting The Chainsaw: Method 2

Starting the chainsaw on the ground

- Stand with your right foot on the base of the rear handle
- Keep a firm grip on the front handle with your left hand. Keep your left arm straight.
- Pull the starter handle with your right hand (following the manufacturer starting procedure) Repeat until the engine fires.



Operating The Saw

- ▶ Check and clear dirt, debris, rocks, etc. from the saw's chain path.
- ▶ Check for nails, spikes, or other metal in the tree before cutting.
- ▶ Look up before cutting. Are there loose limbs or other hazards in the tree that may fall?
- ▶ Communicate with, and watch out for coworkers.
- ▶ Keep both hands on the handles and have secure footing while operating the chainsaw.
- ▶ Don't cut directly over your head or between your legs.
- ▶ Put the phone down: Don't Operate Distracted



Image: <https://remingtonpowertools.com/how-to/how-to-safely-operate-a-chainsaw/>

Operating the Saw Continued

- ▶ Be prepared for kickback. Don't cut with tip of saw; keep track of where tip is. Keep tip guard in place
- ▶ Shut off or release the throttle before retreating, carrying the chainsaw more than 50 feet, or traversing over hazardous terrain.
- ▶ Don't carry the saw on your shoulder. If you fall, the blade is next to your neck.
- ▶ Work at a safe distance from other workers (twice the height of the trees being felled).
- ▶ Take breaks. Tired workers make mistakes and get hurt.
- ▶ Inexperienced workers must be supervised by a trained worker when felling trees.

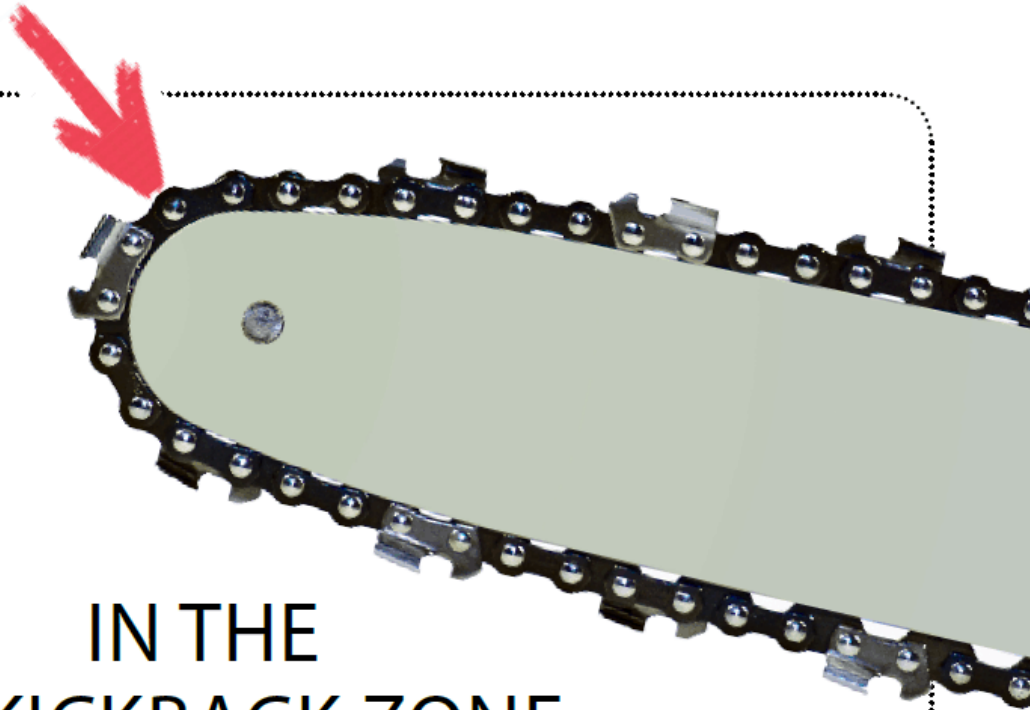


Image: (Alvin Jornada / The Press Democrat)

<https://www.sonomanews.com/article/news/firefighters-close-in-on-full-containment-as-sonoma-county-turns-toward-rec/?artslide=1>

Beware of Chainsaw Kickback

Kickback is the term describing the unexpected upward motion of the guide bar. Kickback occurs when the end of the bar (the kickback zone) strikes an object and the chain momentarily snags, or is pinched.



IN THE KICKBACK ZONE

Never use this part of the bar – it is the most likely part of the bar to cause kickback, gripping the timber and then throwing the saw and blade backwards with force. The first part of you it will hit is your face and then the top of your head.

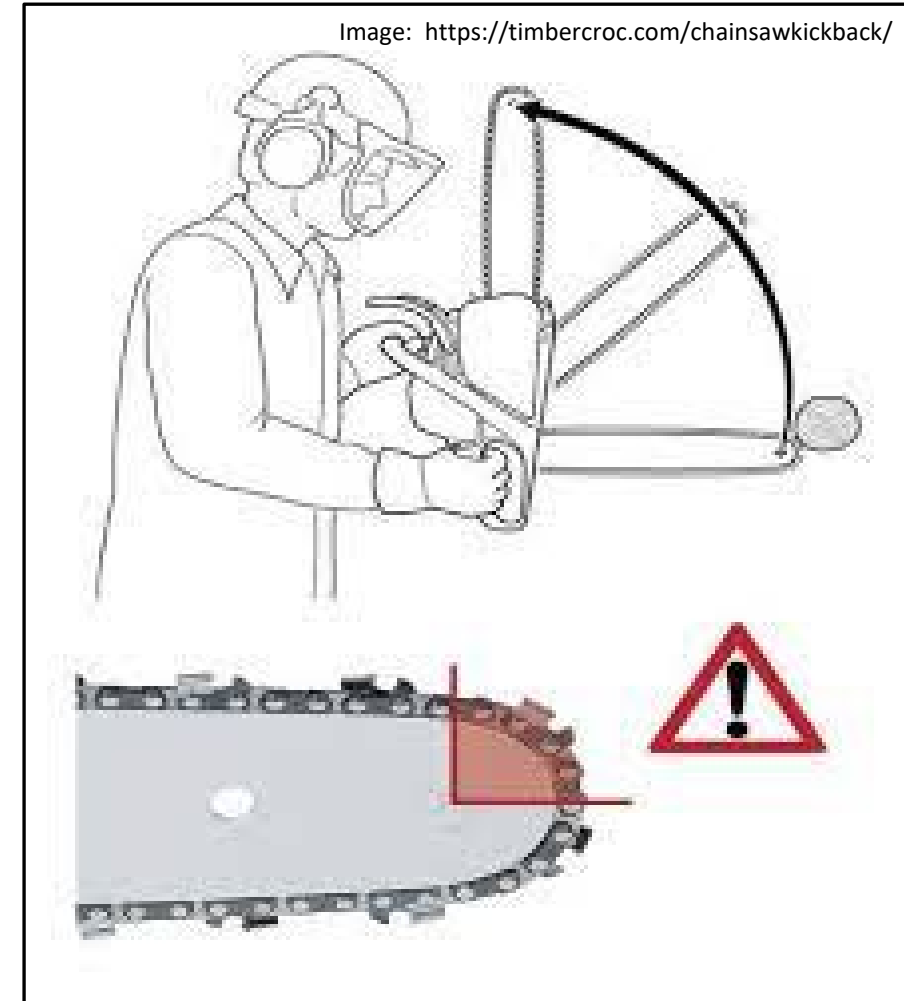


Image: <https://timbercroc.com/chainsawkickback/>

Increased Risk of Chainsaw Kickback

The following factor(s) can increase the risk of a chainsaw kickback:

- ▶ Blunt chain
- ▶ Loose rivets
- ▶ Poor saw maintenance
- ▶ Poorly sharpened chain angles
- ▶ Incorrectly installed chain parts
- ▶ Chainsaw chain tension too low
- ▶ Incorrect chain depth guide shapes
- ▶ Excessive chain depth guide gauge settings
- ▶ Bent, cracked, or broken chainsaw chain components



ATTENTION: READ THIS

WARNING: This saw chain met the kickback performance requirements of ANSI B175.1-2012 when tested according to the provisions of ANSI B175.1-2012. Low kickback saw chain meets the kickback performance requirements of CSA Standard Z62.3.



ATTENTION: READ THIS

WARNING: The saw chain in this package may be capable of kickback that could result in serious injury to the chain saw operator or bystanders. Do not use this saw chain unless you have experience and specialized training for dealing with kickback. Saw chain with reduced kickback potential is available.

<https://www.timbergadgets.com/reducing-the-risk-of-chainsaw-kickback/>



Australian man's face sliced open in grisly chainsaw accident

Allison Worrall · 18:52, Jun 01 2016



He was chopping a small branch in the shrubs and did not see a large tree trunk behind the branch.

When the chainsaw hit the trunk, the tip of the chainsaw kicked back and struck him in the face.

Like a scene from a horror movie, the chainsaw sliced from his nose down through his mouth and jaw, narrowly missing his carotid artery, according to a doctor who performed surgery on him.



Reducing the Risk of Chainsaw Kickback

- ▶ Read and understand the operating instructions completely prior to use.
- ▶ When using a chainsaw, stay alert at all times.
- ▶ If you are tired, this is not the right time to use a chainsaw.
- ▶ Exercise caution when cutting tree branches
- ▶ Never saw above shoulder height.
- ▶ Ensure the chain brake functions properly.
- ▶ Pay attention to where the nose of the bar is.
- ▶ When purchasing a chainsaw chain, choose the one with the lowest kickback potential while meeting your needs.
- ▶ The best way to avoid chainsaw kickback is not cutting with the kickback zone of the bar.



Image: <https://www.backyardboss.net/chainsaw-kickback/>

Notice the area of the bar being used in the above image:
The base of the bar, not the tip

Reducing the Risk of Chainsaw Kickback

Low-Kickback saw chain

Depth gauges function as a safety feature, because by regulating the size of the chip, they also regulate the severity of reactive forces. The thicker the chip, the more severe the potential kickback.

To minimize the possibility of reactive forces, kickback-reducing features on chains limit the amount of fiber that can be hooked by the working corner as it rounds the upper half of the bar tip, which is commonly referred to as the kickback zone.



Standard Saw Chain



Low-Kickback Saw Chain

Reducing the Risk of Chainsaw Kickback; Commercial Products

Built in Chainsaw Safety Features

CHAINSAW SAFETY FEATURES

Image: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

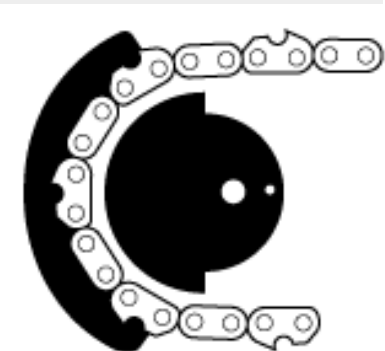
- Chain Brakes
- Safety Trigger Lock
- Spark Arrester
- Chain Catch Pin
- Hand Guards
- Sprocket-Nose Bar
- Low-Kickback Chain
- Anti Vibration Mounts
- Felling Sight



<https://www.fws.gov/policy/241fw12.html>

Commercial “Kick Guard”

Image: <https://www.echo-usa.com/chainsaw-accessories/kick-guard%E2%84%A2>



Safety Tip

https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/safety_haz/chainsaws/kickback.html

What is wrong with these pictures?



Image: <https://boingboing.net/2020/01/14/darwin-award-nominees-idiots.html>



IMAGE: <https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/3725968/weird-health-and-safety-fails-show-why-women-live-longer-men/>

Remember, Always Practice Chainsaw Safety

Nothing you use a chainsaw for is worth being injured

Sheriff's wood-cutting routine turns bloody: 'I was in a big hurry. Big mistake.'

by Beth Waldon | Thursday, October 10th 2019

KTVO

<https://ktvo.com/news/local/sheriffs-wood-cutting-routine-turns-bloody-i-was-in-a-big-hurry-big-mistake>

Not trying to gross anyone out, but in 12 years of cutting well over a 1000 truck loads of wood I have never had the chainsaw kick back and get me. Plenty of close calls, but this time I wasn't so lucky. I'm posting this to remind you that it can happen to you just that quick so be dang careful!



How long will this injury keep someone in the hospital?

How long will this injury keep someone out of work?

What does this do to your income?

What about your family's wellbeing and security?

Slow down! Utilize Best Practices! Wear PPE!

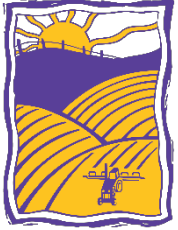
Employee Rights - Overview



- ▶ Under federal law, you are entitled to a safe workplace.
- ▶ Your employer must provide a workplace free of known health and safety hazards.
- ▶ If you have concerns, you have the right to speak up about them without fear of retaliation.

Employee Rights

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- Be trained in a language you understand
- Work on machines that are safe
- Be provided required safety gear, such as gloves or a harness and lifeline for falls
- Be protected from toxic chemicals
- Request an OSHA inspection, and speak to the inspector
- Report an injury or illness, and get copies of your medical records
- See copies of the workplace injury and illness log
- Review records of work-related injuries and illnesses
- Get copies of test results done to find hazards in the workplace

OSHA Whistleblower Protection Programs



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



Find it in OSHA



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THE WHISTLEBLOWER Protection Programs



File a COMPLAINT

File a complaint if your employer has retaliated against you for exercising your [rights as an employee](#). In states with approved State OSHA Plans, employees may file a complaint under the OSH Act with both the [State](#) and [Federal OSHA](#). Under the other federal laws, a complaint must be filed with Federal OSHA directly. You may file a complaint by calling 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), [contacting your local OSHA office](#) or [filing online here](#).

[Learn More](#) →

Know Your RIGHTS

OSHA's whistleblower statutes protect you from retaliation. An employer cannot retaliate by taking "adverse action" against workers who report injuries, safety concerns, or other protected activity.

[Learn More](#) →

Worker PROTECTIONS

Since passage of the OSH Act in 1970, Congress has expanded OSHA's whistleblower authority to protect workers from retaliation under twenty-two federal laws. Complaints must be reported to OSHA within set timeframes following the retaliatory action, as prescribed by each law.

[Learn More](#) →

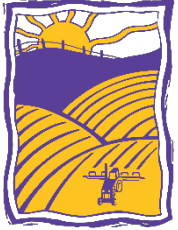
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Whistleblower Rights – Fact Sheet (FS-3638)

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OSHA[®] Fact Sheet

Your Rights as a Whistleblower

You may file a complaint with OSHA if your employer retaliates against you by taking unfavorable personnel action because you engaged in protected activity relating to workplace safety or health, asbestos in schools, cargo containers, airline, commercial motor carrier, consumer product, environmental, financial reform, food safety, health insurance reform, motor vehicle safety, nuclear, pipeline, public transportation agency, railroad, maritime, motor vehicle safety, and securities laws.

Whistleblower Laws Enforced by OSHA

Each law requires that complaints be filed within a certain number of days after the alleged retaliation.

- *Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act* (90 days)
- *Clean Air Act* (30 days)
- *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act* (30 days)
- *Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010* (180 days)
- *Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act* (180 days)
- *Energy Reorganization Act* (180 days)
- *Federal Railroad Safety Act* (180 days)
- *Federal Water Pollution Control Act* (30 days)
- *International Safe Container Act* (60 days)
- *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (motor vehicle safety) (180 days)
- *National Transit Systems Security Act* (180 days)
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act* (30 days)
- *Pipeline Safety Improvement Act* (180 days)
- *Safe Drinking Water Act* (30 days)
- *Sarbanes-Oxley Act* (180 days)
- *Seaman's Protection Act* (180 days)
- *Section 402 of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act* (180 days)
- *Section 1558 of the Affordable Care Act* (180 days)
- *Solid Waste Disposal Act* (30 days)
- *Surface Transportation Assistance Act* (180 days)
- *Toxic Substances Control Act* (30 days)
- *Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century* (90 days)

Unfavorable Personnel Actions

Your employer may be found to have retaliated against you if your protected activity was a

contributing or motivating factor in its decision to take unfavorable personnel action against you. Such actions may include:

- Applying or issuing a policy which provides for an unfavorable personnel action due to activity protected by a whistleblower law enforced by OSHA
- Blacklisting
- Demoting
- Denying overtime or promotion
- Disciplining
- Denying benefits
- Failing to hire or rehire
- Firing or laying off
- Intimidation
- Making threats
- Reassignment to a less desirable position, including one adversely affecting prospects for promotion
- Reducing pay or hours
- Suspension

Filing a Complaint

If you believe that your employer retaliated against you because you exercised your legal rights as an employee, contact OSHA as soon as possible because you must file your complaint within the legal time limits.

An employee can file a complaint with OSHA by visiting or calling the local OSHA office or sending a written complaint to the closest OSHA regional or area office. Written complaints may be filed by facsimile, electronic communication, hand delivery during business hours, U.S. mail (confirmation services recommended), or other third-party commercial carrier. The date of the postmark, facsimile, electronic communication, telephone call, hand delivery, delivery to a third-party commercial carrier, or in-person filing at an OSHA

Resources Available

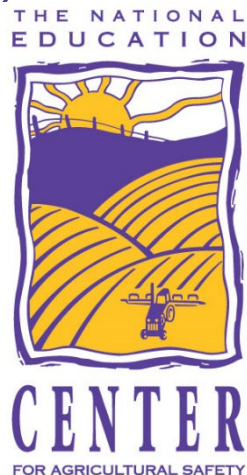


- ▶ OSHA website: www.osha.gov
- ▶ OSHA phone: 800.321.OSHA
- ▶ OSHA educational materials
- ▶ Compliance Assistance Specialists in OSHA Regional and State Offices
- ▶ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) – OSHA's sister agency
- ▶ OSHA Training Institute Education Centers
- ▶ Doctors, nurses, other healthcare providers
- ▶ Public libraries
- ▶ Other local, community-based resources

Disclaimer



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Protecting the People who Feed America

NECAS does not promote or endorse any brands or products: pictures and information are for educational use.

This course is designed for basic safety considerations when operating a chain saw: it is not intended to instruct operators in advanced maintenance or repair techniques, forestry operations, or felling timber.

It is the operator's responsibility to read and follow the owner's manual and manufacturer recommendations.

It is the operator's responsibility to understand the OSHA regulations that apply to their operation.

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