



DECKING

Tool Box Talk



Using the right tool for the job is important — while decking has traditionally been done with fastening tools, new stand up decking power tools now allow for work to be done with greater comfort and convenience. It's just one more way you and your crew can help to maintain health and safety on the jobsite.

Tips for the jobsite

- Mark the deck before firing—this helps ensure the under beam is hit, thereby reducing the chance of fragments, blow throughs and/or damage to the tool
- Never tamper with or modify the power tool in any way
- Use the right tool for the job—do not use the tool in ways it was not intended to be used
- Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating the tool
- Use only fasteners approved for use with the tool
- Never point the tool toward yourself or others
- Never press the nosepiece of the tool against your hand or any other part of your body
- Drive the fasteners only into structural steel members
- Keep the grips dry, clean and free of oil and grease
- Never leave a loaded tool unattended
- Always remove the cartridges before cleaning, servicing or carrying out maintenance work on the tool
- Always use the splinter guard for tasks that can produce flying splinters

Tips for operation

- Ensure the work area is well lit
- Wear suitable eye protection, a hard hat, ear protection and protective gloves while the tool is in use and ensure others in the vicinity do the same
- Pull the trigger only when the nosepiece of the tool is in contact with the working surface and the tool is fully compressed
- Avoid unusual body positions—keep proper footing and balance at all times
- When driving fasteners, always hold the fastening tool perpendicular to the working surface in order to prevent the fastener being deflected by the surface
- Never re-drive a fastener, as this may cause the fastener to break
- Operate the tool only when parts are in good condition and the controls are functioning correctly

Tips for maintenance and storage

- Immediately and carefully remove cartridge strips and unload the tool when it is not being used, and store it in a locked, dry place where it is inaccessible to children. Never attempt to pry a cartridge from the magazine strip or tool
- Do not disassemble the tool while it is hot—if unavoidable, wear protective gloves
- Store unused cartridges in a locked, dry place where they are inaccessible to children

