

Radial Arm Saw safety instruction notes

Similar in function to the Table Saw but has more potential to cause problems injury if not used correctly.

1. Structure of Radial Arm saw –

- a. Circular blade
- b. Motor Mounted on sliding arm.
- c. Blade guard
- d. Fence
- e. Sacrificial Bed
- f. Primarily used for cross cutting

2. PPE and extraction.

- a. No loose clothing
- b. No gloves
- c. Safety glasses or visor at all times
- d. Dust extraction always to be used
- e. Dust mask if prolonged cutting of fibrous materials – MDF etc.

3. Adjustments

Most will be previously set up by workshop cleaning/maintenance team. **If in doubt ask.**

- a. Do not remove blade guard at any time unless performing maintenance with power isolated.
- b. Adjust blade height & angle to suit required cut – don't forget to check for square/parallel.
- c. Stock must be held firmly against the fence
- d. If making an angled cut raise the blade BEFORE swinging the head to the required angle
- e. Adjust the blade to required height – Note, blade should not penetrate into the sacrificial bed more than 3mm (1/8 Inch)

4. Keep work piece clear of the blade, start the machine and **LISTEN**

- a. Rumbling, whining or vibration indicates a problem

Now we're ready to start cutting

5. Follow basic safety rules

- a. Turn on extractor before powering up the machine
- b. Keep hands clear of blade at all times – Do not attempt to hold material any closer than 75mm (3") from the blade.
- c. Check for any bows or twist in the material and ensure it is tight to the fence (see illustration)

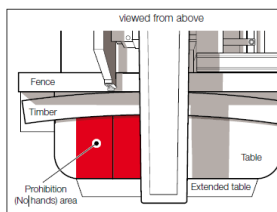


Figure 6 Bowed timber – rounded edge to the fence to prevent snatching

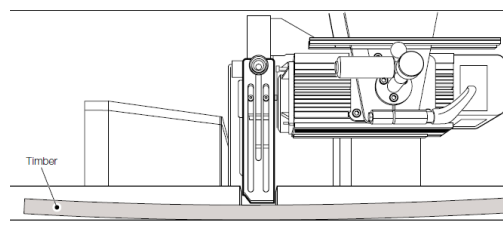


Figure 7 Bowed timber – rounded face down to prevent snatching

6. Cutting procedure

- a. TAKE FIRM GRIP OF THE HANDLE
- b. Turn on motor
- c. Release the lock
- d. Pull the motor head/blade steadily in to the work – ENSURE YOU RESIST THE BAD TENDENCY TO DRIVE TOWARDS YOU.
- e. When the cut is complete, return the motor head to its rest position
- f. ENGAGE THE LOCK BEFORE RELEASING THE HANDLE
- g. DO NOT RELEASE THE CONTROL HANDLE UNTIL THE HEAD IS LOCKED IN PLACE
- h. Turn off the motor
- i. Turn off the dust extraction unless making repeat cuts.

7. Useful functions of the machine

- a. Repeat cuts to length (using a stop)
- b. Angle/mitre cuts
- c. Lap Joints
- d. Tenons