

## **Benchwork - Fitting and Assembly Safety**

When fitting and assembling, wear safety glasses.

Before using any hand tool, inspect it to make sure it is in good repair.

### **Hammer**

Make sure the hammer head is secured to the handle. If the head is loose it must be fixed.

If the handle is broken or cracked it must be replaced. Taping a cracked handle is not the solution and can be dangerous.

When using a hammer use the correct hammer and size of hammer. Use a controlled motion. Let the weight of the hammer do the work.

### **File**

When using a file, make sure it has a securely attached handle. The handle should be the right size for the file. Never use a file without a handle.

Fasten the material to be filed in a vise to secure it at about elbow height. This makes it easier to file.

When filing, only apply pressure on the forward stroke. Files do not cut on the back stroke.

Never rub your fingers or hands across a surface being filed.

### **Hacksaw**

When using a hacksaw, check that the teeth on the blade point away from the handle.

Adjust the blade tension so the blade cannot flex or bend.

After the cut has started only apply pressure on the forward stroke.

Use steady even strokes. About 50 strokes a minute is sufficient. Too much speed will overheat the blade and cause it to shatter.

When nearing the end of the cut, slow down to control the saw as it breaks through the material.