

## Lathe Safety

Make sure you are wearing your safety glasses before operating the machine.

Be familiar with the machine controls before attempting to operate it on your own. Ask the instructor if you are unsure what to do.

Check that all safety guards are securely in place.

Know where the emergency off switch is located in case of an emergency.

Do not wear gloves while operating a lathe.

Take the chuck wrench out of the chuck when you are finished tightening the part. Leaving the wrench in the chuck is one of the most common beginner mistakes. It is a very good habit to return the chuck wrench to its assigned spot every time you need to free up your hands. If you turn on the spindle with the chuck wrench in the chuck you get unpleasant results.

Don't turn on the power while attempting to tighten the chuck wrench. There is a danger you will get your fingers trapped between the wrench and the weights.

When changing chucks or other holding hardware make sure you know how to secure them. Chucks need to be installed correctly and securely. Do not suddenly reverse a threaded chuck.

If the part is too heavy to lift on your own get help or use a mechanical lifting device.

Revolve the chuck one turn by hand before turning on the power to make sure the part will turn without jamming.

Never attempt to stop a turning chuck or other work holding device by hand and make sure to disengage automatic feeds at the end of the cut.

Do not attempt to change gears while the machine is running.

When measuring the work make sure the spindle is turned off.

When filing a piece on the lathe, file left-handed and make sure the file has a properly secured handle and is the correct type of file.

Maintain proper housekeeping at and around the machine. Clear chips away with a brush. Never use your hands or compressed air to clean off the lathe. Keep the floor clean and clear so you don't trip or slip.

When finished with the machine, clean chips and dirt off and return it to its original clean condition.