

Job site: _____
 Foreman: _____

Date: _____
 G.C. _____

SMOHIT Safety Sense
 Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry

Knives and Other Sharp Objects

- Working with knives and other sharp objects can cause severe cuts and lacerations if used improperly. Keep the following safety tips in mind when working with knives and other sharp objects:
 - When handling knife blades and other cutting tools, direct sharp points and edges away from you.
 - When cutting objects with a knife, cut away from your body.
 - Use the knife that has been sharpened; do not use knives that have dull blades. A cut from a dull knife is often worse than a cut from a sharp knife.
 - Use knives for the operations for which they are intended.
 - Never use knives with broken or loose handles. Take them out of service immediately and report the damage to your supervisor.
 - Do not use knives in place of other tools, such as screwdrivers or pry bars.
 - Do not leave knives in sinks full of water.
 - Never pick up a knife by its blade.
 - When carrying a knife, keep the tip pointed towards the floor.
 - Do not carry knives, scissors, or other sharp tools in your pocket unless they are first placed in their sheath or holder.
 - Never attempt to catch a falling knife.
 - Store knives in their designated area, such as knife blocks or in sheaths after use.
 - When picking up any bags that have sharp objects protruding from them, grab the top of the bag above the tie-off, using both hands, and hold the bag away from your body.
 - When opening cartons use the proper safety box cutters. Do not cut with the blade extended beyond the guard.

Instructor Tips

- **Remind workers to use proper PPE, such as gloves, to prevent cuts and lacerations.**

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