

Machine Guarding

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Machine guards are shields that cover moving or hazardous parts of equipment designed to protect people from coming into contact with the hazard or contain objects from being ejected from the tool or machine.

Operating tools or equipment without the proper guards in place increases the risk of serious injury or even death.

The photo on the top right shows a belt and pulley exposed because the cover is off. As long as no one goes near the exposed spinning belt and pulleys the risk of injury is low. However, it is often necessary to work close to the drive belt during operation which increases the likelihood of injury. A serious injury could result from a worker becoming caught in the moving belt or struck by flying debris.



The photo below and to the right shows the guard fabricated by our team covering the hazard and eliminating the risk of becoming entangled in the drive belt and causing injury.

Before operating any tool or piece of equipment make sure that the proper guards are in place and the tool or equipment is in working order.

Did you know that a 7" grinder wheel rotating at 8,500 RPM translates into a linear velocity of 79 mph? When using a hand grinder be sure the guards are in place and you are wearing a face shield to protect from being struck by a broken grinder disk.



Questions about Tool Talk Topics or other safety items? Contact Kurt Shea at 269-207-2055 or by email at kurt@pkcontracting.com

