

# PLAYING IT **SAFE**

Be safe and healthy on the job at with these helpful tips provided by Cool Insuring Agency, Inc..

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## Pneumatic Nail Gun Safety

*Tool tips to prevent injuries on the job*

Though very useful tools, nail guns are quite hazardous as well. They can cause serious injuries to your eyes, hands and fingers if used improperly or without the necessary safety precautions.

### Nail Gun Hazards

- Splintering or fragmenting of materials can cause cutting or flying hazards
- Puncturing the back of the material
- Firing completely through the material and striking your hand or other body part behind the nailing surface
- Contact hazards, such as nails striking electrical wires

To prevent these types of incidents, you need to understand what type of tool you are using and then how to use it safely and properly.

### Common Tool Types

- *Sequential tools:* require the nose (work piece contact) to be depressed before the trigger is pulled
  - Two-step sequence makes accidental firing less likely
  - Can be used for most nailing tasks
- *Contact tools:* tool fires anytime

the trigger and nose (work piece contact) are both depressed

- Trigger can be held down to allow "bump firing"
- Used for nailing on flat surfaces
- If the trigger is depressed, the tool will fire any time the nose is depressed, which can cause unwanted double-firing

### Safe Work Practices

- Follow the manufacturer's labels and operating manual.
- Wear safety glasses with side shields.
- Never remove or modify the safety features of the tool.
- Keep your fingers away from the trigger when you are not driving nails.
- Avoid line-of-fire hazards in front of and behind material; position yourself out of the line of fire and make sure co-workers are not in the way either.
- Never point the nail gun at another person.
- Disconnect the gun to perform maintenance and move to another work area to clear jams.



### Don't Underestimate the Hazards

Though a nail gun may not be as big as some of the other tools that you operate regularly, it can still cause major injuries. Protect yourself and watch out for others to prevent injuries on the job.

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