

## Band Saw Competencies

### I. Competencies

Given a properly adjusted band saw, instruction and demonstration of use, each student will be able to:

- A. Pass a written test on the safety and operating procedures of the band saw with 100% accuracy.
- B. Demonstrate the ability to use the band saw while observing all safety rules and correct operating procedures.

### Instructional Materials and Procedures



### Band Saw Safety

1. Remove hoodies, rings, watches, other jewelry, and roll up sleeves above the elbows. Remove all loose outer clothing and confine long hair. Protective type footwear should be worn. **Do not wear gloves** when operating the band saw.
2. Wear an approved safety shield, safety glasses or glasses to protect the eyes.
3. Keep the table and floor around the machine clean and free of scraps and sawdust.
4. Keep guards in place at all times. The blade guard should be from 1/8 to 1/4 inch above stock. Keep hands away from blade, use a push stick when cutting small pieces.

Maintain a balanced stance and keep your body under control at all times; do not overreach.

5. Use only blades that are in good condition. Blades that are dull or have missing teeth can require excessive force and increase the chances of an accident.
6. Make all adjustments with the power off. Disconnect the power for any service, maintenance or blade changes on the band saw. With the tool unplugged rotate the upper wheel by hand to see if the blade tracks down the middle of the wheel.
7. Give the work your undivided attention. Looking around, carrying on a conversation and horseplay are careless acts which can result in serious injury.
8. Upon completion of a job, clean the band saw and work area. Never clean the machine with the power on and never use hands to clean up chips and saw dust; use a brush. Make sure the band saw has stopped before leaving it.
9. Do not allow the hand or fingers to come closer than 2 inches to the blade.
10. Select the proper blade width, refer to a chart which gives the blade width for minimum radii cuts.
11. The teeth on the blade of a properly installed band saw should point downward in the direction of blade travel.
12. Be sure material being sawed is free of nails, paint and other obstructions.
13. Plan your cuts carefully. Lay out work clearly, use relief cuts to prevent the blade from binding, and avoid backouts.
14. Do not cut stock until the machine is running at full speed.
15. Always place stock flat on the band saw table.
16. Do not force the stock into the blade at a rate faster than it can be readily cut.
- 17. Do not push stock with hands in line with the Blade.**
18. Do not place excess stress on the blade by twisting the stock, cut curves gradually.
19. If a problem develops and the blade has to be backed out, shut off the machine and wait until the blade has stopped.
20. If the blade breaks, shut off the power and move away from the machine. Never try to free a blade while the wheels are turning.
21. An indication of a cracked blade is a rhythmic click as the cracked portion of the blade passes through the wood.
22. Cylindrical stock should be mounted in a holding device