

TEACHING GRINDERS

Grinders perform a wide variety of operations — all at high speeds. As with every power tool, operators must give grinders their undivided attention. Remind students to always check the wheel for tightness before each use, and never use cracked or damaged grinding wheels. (At the high speeds that grinders turn, rotational forces can cause faulty wheels to fly apart, throwing sharp fragments in many directions at high velocity.)

Here again, guards are critical in preparation for the unexpected event. They will help to protect the operator from potentially lethal fragments should a grinder wheel break up in use.

Refer To...

- ▶ **Safety Is Specific**, Section on Bench and Portable Disc Grinders.
- ▶ **Safety Is Specific**, Section on Rotary Die Grinder.

...for references to the safe use of grinders.

Lesson Suggestion... Help Someone Else Learn

Objective: Get students to thoroughly absorb use and care procedures for a tool that they must teach to someone else.

Materials/Requirements: A cooperative volunteer “student” — or two.

What to Do: After students have gained a level of familiarity with the grinder or other tool, invite another teacher or adult who has no experience with the tool to visit your classroom. Have your students take turns instructing the newcomer in various aspects of using and caring for the tool — set up, use, maintenance, clean up. Make sure your students stress the importance of using the guards.

Are the students able to convey what they know? Do they themselves thoroughly understand what they are trying to teach the visitor? Encourage them to press each other for more information and better explanations. Students should prepare for this class with a group discussion in which they arrive at a basic outline for teaching the tool.