Band Saw Safety Rules

Name: _____________________________
Date: ____________________________

Directions: Before operating the band saw you are required to know each of the following rules pertaining to operating and using the band saw safely. You must pass the band saw safety quiz before using the band saw.

1. Always wear safety glasses/safety goggles while using the band saw and working in the shop.
2. Study the cuts you are wanting to make. Plan them in advance. Mark your wood. Bore holes prior to using the band saw and/or make relief cuts with the band saw to avoid having to make tight turns or cut sharp corners.
3. Make sure the belt guard doors are closed prior to using the band saw.
4. Make sure that the throat plate is properly installed - positioned flat with the notch in place so that the throat plate cannot turn and/or is not touching the blade.
5. Make sure there are no scrap pieces lodged between the blade and the throat plate opening.
6. BEFORE turning the band saw on, adjust the blade guide so that it is 1/8” above your stock. If the stock is uneven, adjust the blade guide for the thickest portion.
7. NEVER turn the band saw on while stock is touching the blade.
8. Turn the band saw on and wait until the saw has reached full speed before starting to cut your stock.
9. Keep fingers at least 2 inches away from the blade all the while you’re cutting stock using the band saw.
10. Keep fingers to the sides of the blade. Left hand to the left of the blade, and right hand to the right of the blade.
11. A miter gauge or rip fence may be used to assist in guiding stock while making the cut.
12. Never cut round stock unless it is being held in a special “V” fixture.
13. Never back out of a cut. If it does become necessary to back out of a cut, turn the band saw off, wait until it comes to a complete stop, and then slowly back the stock out.
14. Never stand to the right of the front of the blade while using the band saw.
15. Complex curves should be broken up into several simple curves.
16. Concentrate, Concentrate, Concentrate. Do not let yourself become distracted at any time while operating the band saw. Keep your full attention on the stock, your line, and where your fingers are while cutting. Maintain the 2” margin of safety.
17. While the band saw is running, do not reach in to remove cut-away pieces or chips near the blade guide or caught under the blade guide.
18. If a blade breaks during usage, turn the machine off, step back away from the machine, and notify the instructor. Do not install a new blade yourself.
19. If a piece of wood gets trapped between the blade and the throat plate opening, turn the machine off, wait until the blade stops, and then clear the chip out.
20. Always turn the band saw off and wait until it stops moving before making any adjustments that you are permitted to make.
21. Just before the end of the cut, let up on the pressure you are applying so that your hand does not surge forward.
22. When finished working with the band saw, turn the machine off and remain in the work zone until it stops moving.
23. Do NOT saw after the power has been turned off.
24. Keep the table and the floor around the band saw free of scraps by picking them up after you’re finished using the band saw.
25. If you’re unsure about the application of any of these rules to your specific situation, ask the instructor.