



SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

Metal Turning Lathe



DO NOT use this machine unless you have had instruction and training in its safe use and operation.

Teacher permission MUST be given to operate this machine.

The risk of injury when using this machine is **SUBSTANTIAL**

IDENTIFIED RISKS AND HAZARDS

Hazards that may arise when operating fixed metal machinery include:

- moving and rotating parts (blades and bits, tool disintegration)
- movement of the workpiece
- electrocution from power faults, faulty equipment or incorrect use
- ejection of waste materials from the machining process
- burns from hot materials or friction
- hand and finger injuries from rotating blades, spindles or pulleys
- squash, pinch and crush injuries
- noise from high speed cutters



PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY

- The isolating switch should be in the OFF position. The lathe must be isolated from the main electricity supply when not in use.
- The lathe bed should be free of all material and tools.
- The work area should be clean and free of scrap and other obstacles.
- Ensure all guards are correctly fitted and secured.
- Check that the speed of the lathe is correct for diameter of the workpiece.

OPERATING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Ensure all other students keep outside the safety zone at all times.
- Wear PPE to protect the eyes such as safety spectacles, goggles or an eye shield.
- Wear PPE as a hair restraint if the operator has long hair.
- Ensure that the workpiece is secure between the chuck and the bearing centre.
- Allow the lathe to reach maximum speed before applying the turning tool.
- Keep the hands well away from the workpiece when the lathe is running.
- Ensure that all of the accessories are secure and the turning chisels are sharp.
- Position the tool rest at the correct height and distance from the work piece.
- Revolve the workpiece by hand once or twice before starting the lathe to check the correct positioning of the tool rest and the mounting of the spur (live) centre and dead centre.



This SOP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with the use of this machine and should only be used with other safety instruction references. It is designed to be posted on the machine and act as a visual reminder to machine operators.

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