# Band Saw General Safety Rules and Procedures

1. Wear **safety glasses**, goggles or a face shield at all times while using the saw.
2. If the cutting operation is dusty, wear a **dust mask**.
3. Do **not wear gloves** while operating a band saw.
4. Avoid **long sleeves, ties, dangling jewelry** or any other loose fitting clothing while operating a table saw. The clothing could get caught in the blade.
5. Wear non-slip footwear.
6. Make sure there are no scrap pieces or chips on the **floor in front of the Band Saw**, or lodged between the table and the blade.
7. Do not carry on a conversation while cutting. Pay attention to the work being performed.
8. Do **not reach behind or over the blade** unless it has stopped turning.
9. Do not leave the saw until the blade has come to a complete stop.
10. Make sure that the blade has **stopped turning before adjusting** the band saw.
11. After any adjustment, make sure that the **blade is free** before you turn on the power.
12. Check the blade **tension and tracking** before starting.
13. Always **disconnect** the power prior to changing the blade or performing any other maintenance operation.
14. Set the saw guide to within **½ inch of the stock** before turning on the power.
15. Do not put your **fingers closer than two inches** from the blade.
16. Do not place your hands and especially your thumb **directly in line** with the blade.
17. Keep bystanders away from the **right hand area** of the saw. Broken blades have a tendency to fly out to the right.
18. Use a **"V" block** when cutting cylindrical stock.
19. Cut at a **moderate feed rate** into the blade. Do not force a cut.
20. **Turn off the power before backing out of a cut**. This avoids pulling the blade off its wheels.
21. To avoid bending or breaking the blade, **you should not twist or bend the saw blade** with your stock. Make relief cuts before sawing sharp curves and never use extreme force to cut your material.
22. **If the blade breaks or comes of the wheels, shut off the power immediately**, stand clear, let the machine coast to a complete stop.
23. Never try to clean off the band saw table with your hands when the saw is running.