

Utility Knife Safety



Improper utility knife use can result in minor or severe lacerations requiring surgical repair. Fingers, thumbs and even legs can be injured by utility knives. Review the following utility knife safety tips with your employees.

Toolbox Tips

- Only cut materials appropriate for box knives:
 - Thin cardboard and paper
 - Shrink wrap or thin plastics
- Forcing the knife can allow users to lose control and can lead to a severe laceration.
- Do not use a box knife with a dull blade.
- Dull blades require more cutting force exerted by the hand, meaning accidents can produce very traumatic injuries.
- Keep spare blades accessible.
- Do not dispose of dull blades in trash cans. Dispose of dull blades in a leak-proof container.
- Do not use “too much blade.” Only use enough blade to make the cut.
- Cut away from the body. Keep your hands, fingers and arms out of the way of the cutting path.
- Close knives after use. Do not store knives in the “open” position.
- Only purchase box knives with adjustable blades.



Cut away from the body.

Keep your hands, fingers and arms out of the way of the cutting path.

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