

Protect yourself with proper machine guards

Operating machinery without machine guards is extremely dangerous and can result in serious injuries, including amputations.

Guards help protect operators and nearby workers from hazards like rotating parts, in-running nip points, and saws.

Safety tips to remember

- Keep all guards in place before operating a machine
- Never remove guards without supervisor approval
- Avoid modifying equipment in any way
- Don't adjust guards while the machine is running
- Replace missing or removed guards immediately

Types of machine guards

Fixed guards

Permanently attached to the equipment

- Requires minimal maintenance
- Best for high-production, repetitive tasks
- May limit visibility
- Guards may need to be removed to adjust the machine

Interlocked guards

Machine stops when the guard is removed

- Allows easy access to clear jams
- Needs careful adjustments and routine maintenance



Adjustable guards

Manually adjusted for different material sizes

- Easy to adjust
- Versatile for multiple specific tasks
- Requires frequent maintenance

Self-adjusting guards

Opens based on the size and movement of the material

- Replacement guards are easily available
- Offers less protection than fixed or interlocked guards
- May limit visibility