Scroll (jig) saw

Scroll saws are useful for cutting intricate curves and patterns in thin stock. They have thin blades that move rapidly up and down through the opening in the saw table. The blade is held in upper and lower chucks that pull it tight and keep it from bending. A hold-down device adjusts to the thickness of the wood being cut. The material is pushed through the moving blade.

Hazard

Serious cuts to the fingers and hand can occur if the operator contacts the blade.

The blade can bind or break if stock is lifted during the upstroke of the reciprocating blade or if the stock is moved aggressively.

Solution

Guard the blade above the work piece with an adjustable guard.

Use an adjustable holddown device to oppose the lifting tendency of the work piece from the reciprocating blade.

Make turns slowly. Use a narrow blade for sharp turns. Consider using aids to push material through the blade.

References

- General Industry
  Oregon OSHA Division 2/Subdivision O 29 CFR 1910.213(r)(4)

- ANSI 01.1 Woodworking Machinery — Safety Requirements