**Standard Operating Procedure for Band Saw in [Department/Unit/Shop]**

***Instructions****: Update this template with details specific to band saw use in your department/unit/shop/maker space.*

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| **TOPIC** | **PROCEDURES** |
| **1. Process**  | Cut material (wood, metal or plastic) by drawing a continuous metal saw blade through the work piece. This allows cutting curves, resawing, and large depth cuts on thick material. |
| **2. Equipment** | Band Saw. [add specifics]. |
| **3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**  | Safety glasses and hearing protection, plus any other PPE that may be required based on the [**Shop PPE Hazard Assessment**](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/resource/shop-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-hazard-assessment-guide-1334)**.** |
| **4. Environmental /****Ventilation controls** | Make sure equipment is securely mounted or bolted to the floor. A dust collection system should be attached in the cutting area or to the blade guard. |
| **5. Required training or approval**  | * Review and observe [general safety practices](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/system/files/resources/staying-safe-shops-poster.pdf) for this shop.
* Refer to the manufacturer’s operating manual for all operating procedures.
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| **6. Inspection requirements before use** | * Ensure work area is clear of obstacles and persons within a 2 foot perimeter of the saw.
* Locate and ensure you are familiar with the operation of the ON/OFF and E-Stop (if fitted).
* Check that all guards are in position and the blade is properly adjusted prior to turning on the machine. Lower the blade and guide guard to full effect.
* Check to ensure the band saw blade is sharp.
* Use a jig to hold the work piece, if possible.
* Check to ensure band saw blade is correct for the type of stock and the correct speed is set.
* Faulty equipment must not be used. Immediately report suspect machinery.
* Adjust the upper guard assembly to within ¼” of the stock prior to starting the machine. Set the band saw at the appropriate speed for the type of stock being used.
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| **7. Safe operating procedures or precautions** | * Keep fingers off the line of cut at all times. **Always** have fingers at least 3” away from the blade.
* Make sure the upper and lower wheel guard doors are closed when running.
* **Never leave the machine running unattended.**
* Keep a balanced stance at the band saw.
* The blade should be 1/32” from the rear roller bearing behind the blade.
* The blade alignment tracking should be at the center of the wheels.
* The work piece should be fed forward evenly and held firmly on the table to ensure effective control during cutting whilst keeping hands in safe position.
* Use a push stick or board to push small or irregular sized stock. Small work pieces or angled work pieces should also be secured with a tabletop vise or clamp.
* Do not force a wide blade on a cut of small radius. Use relief cuts when cutting sharp curves.
* Before making adjustments switch off the saw and bring the machine to a complete standstill.
* Stop the machine before attempting to back the work away from the blade.
* Stop the saw immediately if the blade develops a ‘click’. Report the problem immediately.
* Use a “V” block when cutting cylindrical stock.
* When finished using machine, switch off the saw and reset all guards to a fully closed position. Wait until the machine comes to a complete stop. Never stick an object into the blade to stop the machine faster. Let it stop on its own.
* Make sure to leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state.
* **Always** disconnect the power before changing the blade or performing any other maintenance operation.
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| **8. Waste cleanup** | Avoid any dust build up and clean as you go to prevent a potential dust explosion. Check the dust collection system and make sure it is properly maintained and dust is removed frequently. |
| **9. Emergency response and accident reporting** | In case of fire, dial 9-1-1.Report any accidents, injuries, or near-miss events using [UW’s Online Accident Reporting System (OARS) at](https://oars.ehs.washington.edu/)oars.ehs.washington.edu. |

**Name**:       **Title**:

**Signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**: