Grinder Safety

General Grinder Safety

- Ensure that the rated maximum speed (in rpm) marked on the disc is greater than the rated speed of the grinder.
- Use the right disc for the job, ie
 never use a cutting disc for grinding
 or a grinding disc for cutting.
- Do not use discs that exceed the maximum recommended size.
- Do not use worn-down discs from other grinders.
- Do not limit your ability to safely control or handle a grinder by removing its side handle.
- Use only the correct key tool to fit or remove discs from grinders.
- Ensure that the mounting boss and nut assembly matches with the disc centre hole diameter and does not stress the disc.
- Only trained personnel should adjust or work with grinders.
- Always wear eye protection when working with grinders.
- Never use a grinder without the wheel guard.
- Always protect discs from damage in storage or transit; check them carefully for cracks before use and destroy all damaged discs found.
- Caution: Removing the guard wheel from a grinder ranks in the top ten of all workplace safety violations; it often has serious or even fatal consequences.



The disintegrating grinding disc penetrated the face shield, striking the worker in the face. He died on the scene. Investigation proved that the disc he used was too big for the grinder and that the guard wheel was removed to accommodate the larger disc.



Because the disc was too big for the grinder, the worker removed the guard. He died when the disk shattered and fragments struck him in the chest and abdomen.

Adapted from various sources