

HANDHELD ABRASIVE WHEEL SAFETY

Handheld or portable abrasive wheels, grinders, and cutting discs can be very dangerous. Ensure you are suitably trained in their use before operation.



Top Safety Tips for Portable Grinders

- Suitable guards must be in place and used.
- Ensure wheel is used at correct speed.
- Ensure wheel is in a good condition before use. Never use a cracked wheel.
- Always wear suitable personal protection equipment (PPE).
- Ensure work area is free from trip hazards.
- Do not operate grinders on wet floors.
- Do not operate grinders near flammables.
- Use both hands when holding the grinder.
- Use racks/hooks to store grinders.
- Do not leave plugged in when not in use.
- Run newly mounted wheels at operating speed for 1 minute before grinding.
- Do not clamp portable grinders in a vice for grinding hand-held work.
- Do not use any liquid coolants with portable grinders.
- Do not force wheels onto the wrong sized grinder or change the mounting hole.
- Do not over-tighten the mounting nut.

For more information, check the Health and Safety Executive's Guidance Document:
HSG17 - Safety in the Use of Abrasive Wheels