

## Information Sheet 1

### JOINTER SAFETY RULES

A jointer carelessly handled is a dangerous machine. You must respect its high operating speeds, its sharp knives, and its ability to kick back. When you operate a jointer you should observe the following:

1. Follow all General Shop Safety Rules.
2. Check the condition of stock before jointing. Make sure it is free from nails, paint or other foreign material.
3. Do not take heavy cuts. 1/32" to 1/16" is normal.
4. Never pass your hands directly over the cutter-head.
5. Do not drag your thumb at the back end of the stock, keep your fingers as high as possible on the side of the stock
6. Use push blocks and/or push sticks whenever possible. Fingers should be kept a minimum of 3" away from the cutter at all times.
7. Do not edge-joint stock that is less than 3/4" high, use a push block or stick for narrow stock
8. Do not face stock that is less than 1/2" thick, use a push block for all thin material
9. Keep the work area free of debris; use a cart to store stock waiting for jointing – do not lay it on the infeed/outfeed table, or on the floor where it can pick up debris.
10. Allow the cutterhead to reach full speed before you start a cut and do not leave the jointer until the cutterhead comes to a full stop.
11. Keep the guard in place, unless a specific operation requires its removal.
12. Always use the fence to guide the stock when edge jointing. Make sure it is locked in position before starting.
13. **Do not joint pieces less than 12" long.**
14. Joint "with the grain" whenever possible.
15. **Reset the depth of cut to 1/32" when you have finished using the jointer.**