



# Hollow Chisel Mortiser Safety Rules

The Hollow Chisel Mortiser is a specialized woodworking machine used to cut square or rectangular holes in a piece of lumber, such as a mortise in a mortise and tenon joint. Similar to a drill press in many respects, it combines the cutting of a four-sided chisel with the action of a drill bit in the center. The bit clears out most of the material to be removed, and the chisel ensures the edges are straight and clean. To avoid accidents, the following operational safety rules must be observed by everyone working on the KCWG Hollow Chisel Mortiser. Failure to follow the safety rules will result in a loss of shop privileges.

## **Hollow Chisel Mortiser Safety Rules:**

1. Make all machine adjustments or maintenance with the machine unplugged from the power source.
2. Remove adjusting keys and wrenches from the machine before turning it on.
3. Keep safety guards in place at all times when the machine is in use. If removed for maintenance purposes, use extreme caution and replace the guards correctly.
4. Make sure the mortiser is firmly secured to the table or bench before use.
5. Check for alignment, binding and breakage of moving parts, mounting and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced.
6. Do not force a tool or attachment to do a job for which it was not designed. The right tool will do the job better and be safer.
7. Maintain tools with care. Keep chisel and drill bits sharp and clean for the best and safest performance. Follow instructions for lubricating and changing accessories.
8. Turn the bit around one complete revolution by hand before the power is turned on.

## **Start with a Risk Assessment to ensure a safe work area:**

1. A two foot perimeter around the mortiser should be kept clear of people, debris and sawdust that impair traction or footing to avoid slips and falls.
2. Safety glasses with side shields or a face shield must be worn. Hearing protection should be worn.
3. Remove loose fitting clothing, jewelry, tie back long hair, and roll sleeves up past the elbows.
4. Do not wear gloves or anything that would allow a hand, fingers or clothing to be wrapped around the revolving bit.
5. Give the work your undivided attention.

## **Operational Safety Rules:**

1. Approach your work in the KCWG Shop and on the hollow chisel mortiser with a safe attitude!
2. The auger bit should extend 1/16" - 1/8" beyond the end of the chisel for clearance.
3. Set depth stop high enough so the chisel will not strike the table at the bottom of the cutting stroke.
4. Make sure the workpiece is securely attached or clamped to the table. Never use your hand to hold the workpiece.
5. Keep your hands at least 3" away from the chisel while operating the machine.
6. Maintain a balanced stance at all times so that you do not fall or lean against the chisel and drill bits or other moving parts.
7. Do not overreach or use excessive force to perform any machine operation.
8. Don't cut a three sided hole. Cut the first hole, skip past material about 2/3 size of hole, and drill again. Continue in this manner until mortise length is achieved. Cleanup the mortise by removing material between holes, Failure to follow this procedure will result in a ruined chisel and bit.