



# KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Nail Guns

There are many types of pneumatic nail guns such as air-powered, gas, battery, electric and manual nailers which are common worksite tools. But all of them can cause serious injury or death. For example, If the nail is not properly aimed and is shot before the operator is ready, it becomes hazardous. Many nail gun related injuries occur from trigger misfires. Examples of misfires include double firing and unintended firing from accidental contact with the gun or a coworker.

## Preventing Injuries from Nail Gun Use

### Do:

- Ask for a nail gun with a sequential trigger rather than a contact trip trigger. The latter "bump" nailers allow continuous nailing whenever the trigger and nose are depressed, but they have double the injury rate of sequential trigger nailers.
- Always wear safety glasses, use hearing protection and wear steel toe boots
- Always aim the tool away from the body and other people. The trigger may stick and the gun could fire even though you have not touched the trigger.
- Always disconnect the compressed air when not using the nailer, going up/down a ladder/stairs, passing the nail gun to a coworker, clearing jammed nails or performing maintenance.
- Get trained on using all types of nailers.

### Don't:

- Don't fire the tool unless its nose is placed firmly against the work piece.
- Don't rest the tool against any part of the body.

For more information visit OSHA Standard: 28 CFR1926.302

### Signatures

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