

# Metalworking Machines

## Metalworking Machines - Planers

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### What should you know before using a planer?

Planers can be dangerous if not used properly.

- Read the owner's manual carefully.
- Make sure you understand instructions and are properly trained before operating a planer.

With a planer, the work table moves back and forth while the cutting tool is held stationary. A shaper operates similarly except that the work table is stationary while the cutting tool moves back and forth.

Please refer to the OSH Answers on [Metalworking Machines - General](#) for basic safety tips.

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### What are some good work practices to follow when using a planer?

- Wear appropriate CSA-certified safety glasses.
- Make sure that the planer has a working emergency stop button (e-stop) within easy reach of the operator.
- Use a vacuum, brush or rake to remove cuttings only after the machine has stopped moving.
- Make sure that [all guards are](#) in place and in good working condition.
- Make sure that stop pegs are in place on planer table.

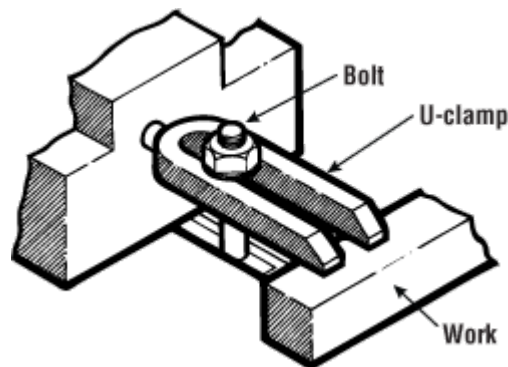
- Secure safety devices at proper locations.
- Make sure that there is ample clearance between the work and the planer frame.
- Secure the tool holder, tool and cross-rail in their proper places.
- Make sure that the feed rod and its attachment are in good working order.
- Make sure that power is on when using a magnetic clutch.
- Use proper cutting tools.
- Always set the depth of cut and the feed rate to be appropriate for the tool and the piece being worked on.
- Keep the machine properly oiled.
- Keep the floor around planers free of oil and grease.
- Keep the working surface clean of scraps, tools and material.
- Use lifting equipment to move work to or from planers. Refer to the OSH Answers on [Materials Handling](#) for additional information.

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## What should you do when clamping work on the table?

Make sure that:

- clamps are located to properly grab work so it will not spring out of shape or alignment



- fork end of the U-clamp is on the work piece
- bolts or nuts with stripped threads are discarded and replaced
- work is mounted squarely

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## What are some things you should avoid doing?

- Do not wear gloves, rings, watches or loose clothing. Tie back long hair.
  - Do not make adjustments or measurements while the planer is in motion.
  - Do not leave the planer unattended while it is running.
  - Do not bypass any guards.
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