

LMCS – Safe Work Procedure



BANDSAWS

DO NOT use this equipment unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation and have passed the safety accreditation

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work areas.
- Long and loose hair must be contained.
- Hearing protection must be worn.
- Sturdy footwear must be worn at all times in work areas.
- Close fitting/protective clothing must be worn.
- Rings and jewellery must not be worn.

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls and emergency stops.
- ✓ Ensure the machine, power cords etc. are in safe working condition.
- ✓ Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present and that no one will be harmed by you operating the machine.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional. Do not operate if guards are missing or faulty.
- ✓ Ensure table and work area is clear of all tools, off-cut timber and sawdust.
- ✓ Lower the blade guide and guard to full effect, to not higher than 6-7 mm higher than the thickness of the material to be cut and lock in position.
- ✓ Open the door at the top and gently rotate the top wheel. Observe the wheel is moving freely and that the blade is tracking as required (and not moving forward or backward). Observe the teeth are clearing the guiding bearings.
- ✓ Lower the blade guide and guard to full effect, to not higher than 6-7 mm higher than the thickness of the material to be cut and lock in position.
- ✓ Guide bearings are adjustable without tools but hand tighten lightly.
- ✓ Start the dust extraction unit before using the machine.
- ✓ If timber needs to be retracted turn off the machine before retracting.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Plug in the machine.
- ✓ Allow the blade to obtain maximum speed before making a cut.
- ✓ Place cupped boards with the concave side against the table.
- ✓ The work piece should be fed forward evenly and held firmly on the table to ensure effective control during cutting whilst keeping hands in a safe position.
- ✓ Use a push stick when feeding material past the blade, especially when using a fence
- ✓ Do not force a wide blade on a cut of small radius. Use

relief cuts when cutting sharp curves.

- ✓ Stop the machine before attempting to back the work away from the blade.
- ✓ Stop the saw immediately if the blade develops a 'click'. Report it to shed coordinator. It is an early sign that the blade may actually break.

ENDING OPERATIONS AND CLEANING UP

- ✓ Switch off the machine when work completed.
- ✓ Reset all guards to a fully closed position after use.
- ✓ Leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND INJURIES

- ⓘ Airborne dust.
- ⓘ Eye and hearing injuries.
- ⓘ Contact with blade at point of operation, potentially severe injuries.

DON'Ts

- ✗ Do not use operate equipment without wearing appropriate PPE.
- ✗ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report suspect equipment.
- ✗ Do not cut pieces with shattered ends.
- ✗ Never leave the machine running unattended.
- ✗ Do not use heavy pressure to a point the machine slows down audibly at a starkly reduced pitch.
- ✗ Do not change saw blades, that is considered maintenance, liaise with Shed Supervisor.

This SWP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with this equipment and should be used in conjunction with other references. It is designed as a guide to be used to compliment training and as a reminder to users prior to equipment use.

This information is modified from Frontline Safety www.frontline.edu.au

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08.05.2022	Endorsement by Safety Com	A Oldham C de Groot	Safety Com pending	Approved	0.2

Safe Operating Procedures - Bandsaws

BACKGROUND INFORMATION & READING

This video will assist you in following safe work practices:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_fJv2f6-014

<https://youtu.be/5qCY-iXPvw8>

Bandsaw Safety Tips

Relief cuts for Tight Curves

Both videos need to be viewed prior to arranging an assessment.

FITNESS TO OPERATE THE BANDSAWS

Members are expected to refrain from working on these power tools and machines if they acknowledge their own level of physical ability inhibits them from doing so safely.

However, if assessors determine that a member has some level of physical impairment that makes it unsafe to use machines, they will have no option other than to assess the member as not having the capacity to do so safely.

You can still do your projects, just mark the timber and ask another shed member to cut/machine the timber for you. You are not compelled to cut the timber yourself and in this environment, you will easily find others that are more than able, and willing to do the cutting for you.

GENERAL RULES & TIPS

- If recycled material is used, all timber MUST be visually checked for nails and screws. After that the timber MUST also be checked with the metal detector. Processing CCA treated timber is not permitted.
- When commencing operation ensure dust extraction system is switched on either manually or automatically.
- When cutting with blades wider than 15 mm a second person would need to assist (orange machine).
- Cutting material with a thickness exceeding 75 mm also requires a second person as well as agreement from the Shed Supervisor

COMMON OPERATIONS ON THE BANDSAWS



Typical bandsaws at LMCS

Refer also Section 7 of the Hammer Manual

Changing saw blade

If a change of blade is required, for example because your cutting radius is smaller than what is deemed possible in the chart provided, you should contact the workshop coordinator as changing the blade requires a more advanced level of knowledge of the bandsaw.

Contact shed supervisor to arrange changing of the blade. Please note: At LMCS there are three bandsaws fitted with different blade sizes to accommodate a range of curves.

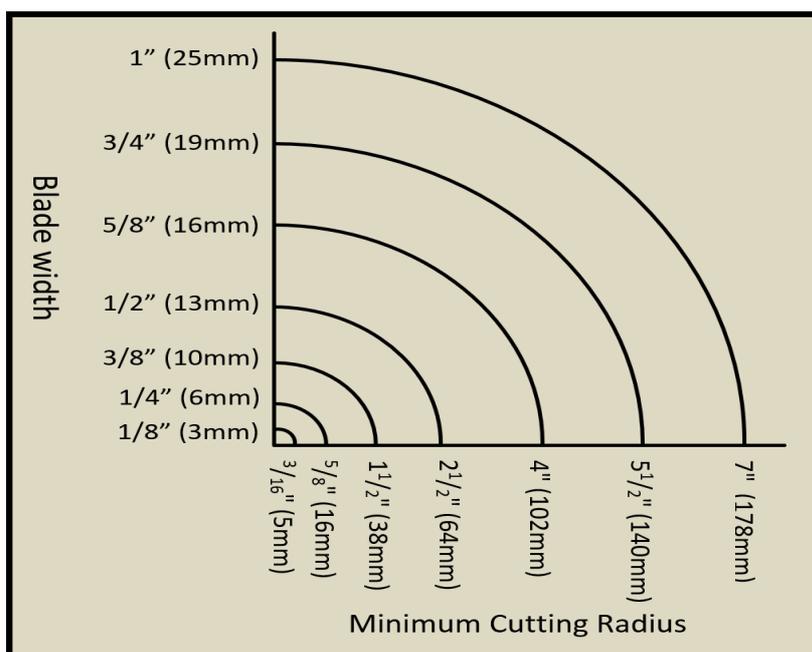
Typical activities

The bandsaw is primarily intended for use on material thinner than 50 mm and mainly to cut curves. Whilst with the appropriate blade it is possible to rip thick timbers or to cut through timbers thicker than what the table saw can do, this is not the intended use of bandsaws at the LMCS. For that reasons some videos, included in the section “**Additional Advanced Techniques Videos**” are as not acceptable uses of the bandsaw.

Therefore, the typical activities are limited to: **Cutting curves and Dovetails.**

Cutting curves

The most important consideration is blade width. Whilst it is possible to cut larger radii with narrow blades the reverse is not possible. You can verify your tightest radii with for example various sizes of paint tins. The chart below provides you a good guide. The Hammer will mostly be fitted with a 3/8"-1/2" or 10-12 mm blade. The older smaller bandsaw typically has 1/4" of 6 mm blades fitted. If your project requires curves with a radius smaller than 38 mm, please use the smaller machine already set up for that purpose. Please note that relief cuts will generally not solve the problem of a blade that is too wide. If there are compelling reasons for cutting tight curves on the Hammer (for example multiple identical pieces or significant thickness (requiring the power of the Hammer)), please liaise with the workshop coordinator to get the blade changed to a smaller size.



LAKE MONGER COMMUNITY SHED



Dove tail cuts

These cuts do not involve curves. The adjustability of the table of the (smaller) bandsaw would be a distinct advantage to carry out this rather traditional jointing technique.

Additional Advanced Techniques Videos

[\(59\) Bandsaw Guides & Blade Setup | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 1 - YouTube](#)

[\(59\) How to Make a Bandsaw Box | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 2 - YouTube](#)

<https://youtu.be/-lxz8GE5Q-8?t=15>

[\(59\) Making a Cabriole Leg | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 3 - YouTube](#)

https://youtu.be/B_IKNwYVfnc?t=88

[\(59\) Through Dovetails on the Bandsaw | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 4 - YouTube](#)

<https://youtu.be/HG-9IFjPueA?t=7>

[\(59\) Straight Cuts & Resawing | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 5 - YouTube](#)

<https://youtu.be/ruRmKz5Ntdc?t=476>

This is not acceptable at LMCS!

[\(59\) Breaking Down Big Pieces | Advanced Bandsaw Techniques Part 6 - YouTube](#)

<https://youtu.be/w5dPh3rYTMA?t=22>

This is not acceptable at LMCS!