Hands Off Machine Guards!
(They're there to protect your hands.)

OSHA requires guards and other safety devices to save your hands from serious injury. It's all too easy to get a finger or hand caught in the moving parts of a machine at its:

- **Point of operation** (where the work actually takes place), or
- **Power train** (where energy is transferred).

Cuts, bruises, broken bones, or even amputation could result!

Required safety devices on machines include:

- **Machine guards**—these are fixed barriers and interlocking or adjustable guards that keep you from reaching into a hazardous area.
- **Presence-sensing devices**—these shut a machine down if they sense your hand is too close.
- **Restraints and pullback devices**—these force your hands away from hazard points.

**To help save your hands from serious injury, remember:**

- Never remove or disable a machine guard!
- Always follow proper lockout/tagout procedures before attempting to unjam or repair a machine at its point of operation or power train!
Your Hands Are Your Most Important Tools!

Here's How to Keep Them Safe and in One Piece:

- **Use** push sticks, not your fingers, to move materials near the point of operation of a machine.
- **Make** sure you know how to operate the machine safely—if you’re not sure, ask a supervisor for training.
- **Never** remove, disable, or reach around a machine guard.

- **Never** operate a machine if the guards or other safety devices have been damaged, disabled, or removed. Report these conditions to a supervisor.
- **Don't** wear jewelry, such as rings and bracelets, or clothing with long or loose sleeves.
- **Don't** wear gloves unless specifically told to do so by a supervisor.
- **Don't** operate machines if under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- **Take** breaks if necessary to maintain your concentration.
- **Follow** all safety rules for working with machines.

Don't get caught by carelessness—stay alert!
KEEPING HANDS SAFE FROM MACHINERY QUIZ

After the following statements, write T for True or F for False:

1. A machine that can cut, press, roll, or drill a piece of wood or metal can do the same thing to your hands. ___

2. The point of operation and the power train are the two most hazardous areas of a machine. ___

3. The point of operation is the point at which energy is transferred. ___

4. The machines that you use may or may not include built-in safety devices. ___

5. Machine guards, restraints, and pull-back devices are all forms of safety devices. ___

6. If a machine is jammed at the point of operation, you can reach around the machine guard. ___

7. Gloves should always be worn when working with machines. ___

8. Presence-sensing devices sound an alarm when a body part comes too close to the machine. ___

9. Always use push sticks rather than your fingers to position and move materials near the point of operation. ___

10. A nip point is any place where a moving part comes close to or contacts another, or where two moving parts come together. ___

______________________________
Name (please print)

______________________________   _______________________
Signature                      Date
ANSWERS

After the following statements, write T for True or F for False:

1. A machine that can cut, press, roll, or drill a piece of wood or metal can do the same thing to your hands. T

2. The point of operation and the power train are the two most hazardous areas of a machine. T

3. The point of operation is the point at which energy is transferred. F
   The power train transfers energy; the point of operation is where the work actually takes place.

4. The machines that you use may or may not include built-in safety devices. F
   OSHA requires machines to include safety devices.

5. Machine guards, restraints, and pull-back devices are all forms of safety devices. T

6. If a machine is jammed at the point of operation, you can reach around the machine guard. F
   Never reach around a machine guard.

7. Gloves should always be worn when working with machines. F
   Unless they are skintight, like surgical gloves, there's a chance that gloves can be caught in machinery.

8. Presence-sensing devices sound an alarm when a body part comes too close to the machine. F
   They cause the machine to shut down when a body part gets too close.

9. Always use push sticks rather than your fingers to position and move materials near the point of operation. T

10. A nip point is any place where a moving part comes close to or contacts another, or where two moving parts come together. T