



What?

- Abrasive wheels are used primarily for cutting and grinding (this can include pipe cutters and threaders)
- They come in various shapes and sizes
- Some are electric and others are pneumatic
- Some are bench or floor mounted and must be secured and fitted with emergency stop
- The wheel should be guarded to such an extent that only the minimum area of the wheel necessary for the work to be done is exposed
- They spin at very high speeds and can wear quickly

Why?

- Main hazards arise from sparks, flying particles, contact with the wheel and trapping between the wheel and work rest
- Severe friction burns, crushed fingers and loss of eyesight are common injuries arising from accidents which occur when using abrasive wheels
- Extreme injury can occur to yourself or others (especially eyes). Remember you only have one pair of eyes
- Fires can be started some distance from the operation if sparks are not contained



Do



- ✓ Wear correct PPE
- ✓ Ensure work area is clear of trip hazards
- ✓ Inspect the wheel for damage before each use
- ✓ Check the on/off switch works properly
- ✓ Keep hands clear of the wheel
- ✓ Use the correct grade of wheel
- ✓ Make sure the tool rests are properly adjusted
- ✓ Make sure sparks don't land on or near combustible material
- ✓ Check guards are in place and properly adjusted

Don't



- ✗ Use without proper training
- ✗ Exceed the wheels maximum permissible speed
- ✗ Use near combustible materials
- ✗ Wear loose clothing which could get caught
- ✗ Use the side of the wheel
- ✗ Use in poor lighting conditions
- ✗ Apply pressure to stop the wheel
- ✗ Dress or change the wheel unless trained and authorized