

Woodshop Orientation

Concord Makerspace

Woodshop General

- Safe and considerate behavior is expected at all times in the workshop.
- Safety glasses are required. There are safety glasses available in the shop. Please wear safety glasses in the shop at all times.
- Hearing protection is recommended, but not required. Be aware hearing loss can be cumulative. We have single-use ear plugs available in the shop. We encourage you to purchase over-the-ear protection as it is generally better.
- ***When you come in and out of the shop, please be mindful not to startle your fellow makers especially if they are using a machine. Be sure they see or hear you before approaching!***
- Long beards, long loose hair, dangly jewelry, or baggy clothes can be pulled into spinning machines. You should avoid work gloves, unless you are working with something particularly splintery. Bare hands provide more feedback in woodworking.
- Closed-toed shoes are required, Please clean up after yourself.
- Consider renting space for your projects in process. If you have no shelf, please carry out what you carry in.
- Sawdust that our system does not pick up should be vacuumed up with the shop vac or swept up with a broom. Sawdust is HIGHLY flammable and we need to stay on top of it. Many machines are connected to the main dust system, please use it.
- Any waste oily rags or papers need to be stored in the lidded metal receptacle we have provided (located in the bathroom).
- The makerspace does not have a finishing booth and cannot permit finishing of projects with high VOC products. Food-safe oils such as walnut or linseed are fine. Please open the shop up when working with anything that has a strong smell.
- Want to work with a material other than wood, or that creates dust with chemical contaminants? Check with the shop manager or available volunteer and get approval beforehand.
- Check with a shop manager before dropping off a donation or starting a volunteer project that alters the woodshop!
- If you are working with lumber that might contain hidden nails, please use the metal detector to verify it is safe to use power tools on it.
- If a piece of equipment is malfunctioning, please report it in the #woodshop channel in Slack.

Other Notes:

"Familiarity breeds Contempt." Each time you pick up a power tool, please treat the equipment with respect and follow proper procedures.

If you are sick, or distracted, or had alcohol/are taking medication/have used recreational drugs, postpone your project for a day when you can pay proper attention. Your physical orientation to the shop will include available safety/first aid equipment.

Most Equipment require a check-out, it is important that you do not use equipment that you have not been checked out on.

Some equipment requires participation in a class, an example of this is the CNC Router.

Using equipment that you have not been checked out on could result in your membership being terminated without a refund.

"But I already know how to use a planer/chop saw/router?" For the sake of the equipment, your fellow makers, and our **insurance premiums**, we are required to cover the basic safety and operational parts of most equipment. This includes learning the quirks particular to the models we have in the shop. If you are clearly knowledgeable and suitably cautious in your approach to tools, we promise not to belabor the obvious and to pace your checkout process appropriately. On the flip side, if you have little or no background in woodworking, checkouts will cover the most important safety and operational aspects of the machines. Ensuring you can use it safely while you learn and progress your skillset. We can also suggest projects and a tool progression that will not help you build confidence. If you are ever in need of a review of a tool in the shop even something that is not motorized, please ask, one of our volunteers can help.

Learn something here, or elsewhere? Please consider paying it forward by volunteering to check out others, teach a class, be a resource to people with their projects, performing maintenance on the machines, or building something that improves the shop! Talk to a volunteer or the shop manager for details.

ENJOY YOURSELF!