Unit 108: Wood occupations

# Worksheet 14: Power tools used by carpenters and joiners (tutor)

1. State one use for each of the circular saw blade types listed.

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| **Blade type:** | **Uses:** |
| Negative hook tooth | All crosscutting applications. This type of blade must be used in crosscut/radial arm/chop saws, to prevent snatch, which could lead to an accident |
| Positive hook blade | Used for all ripping operations as this type of hook holds the material being cut down to the saw table. |

1. State uses for each of the listed power tools.

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| **Saw type:** | **Uses:** |
| Track saw | Used for accurate cutting to a line, particularly for angled cuts, when the fence cannot be used. |
| Compound mitre saw | This is a very versatile saw, which can be used to cut timber to length, cut mitres and cut compound angle for roofing components. |
| Jigsaw | Used for cutting apertures in any board, examples would be for sinks, appliances or cutting around service runs. |

1. State what maintenance is required for each of the listed power tools.

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| **Power tool** | **Maintenance required** |
| Jigsaws | Jigsaws have a number of parts that require maintenance and replacing/cleaning, to ensure they work effectively, including the splinter guard, perspex shield, the saw blade and the soft plastic sole.  All moving parts will need to be cleaned and lubricated on a periodic basis. |
| Routers | Plunge routers only work effectively if the plunge columns and fence bars are kept freely moving, so regular cleaning and lubricating is a must. Router cutters have mostly TCT cutters, so are durable but they need to be sent away for sharpening to keep them working efficiently. |
| Chop saws | Dust is the main cause for this machine not working at optimum performance along with a sharp sawblade. Regular cleaning down and lubrication will pay dividends. |
| Planers | Resin build-up around the circular cutter block is the main problem together with the irons being sharp. It is worth buying a resin cleaning solution to keep the cutter block clean, rather than trying to scrape the resin away. Most cutters are reversible and should be regularly replaced and not left until they are blunt or have gapped cutting edges. |
| Sanders | As sanders only produce dust, this is their biggest problem which requires effective extraction and regular cleaning. This problem is often exaggerated when perforated abrasive sheets are not used, as this limits the effect of the extraction process. It is possible to extend the life of abrasive grit by using abrasive sheet cleaning blocks. |