

# Power Actuated Tool Field Training

## OSHA 1926.30(e)

OSHA has very specific training that is required when you are going to use a Power Actuated Tool. These are tools that use a powder charge or shot to drive nails and anchoring devices. OSHA tells us **“YOU CAN NOT OPERATE A POWER ACTUATED TOOL WITHOUT TRAINING”**.

1. Every day before you use the tool it must be inspected. You must look for cracks, broken pieces, defects, or non-working pieces. You must check the safety features to make sure they are working properly. You must have the owner's manual available at all times and follow the instructions in the manual for inspecting and testing.
2. PPE for using the tool must include hardhat, face shield and eye protection. All three pieces.
3. Load the tool immediately (seconds) before shooting it. You can not load the tool and lay it down or wait to shoot it. OSHA said immediately before using.
4. Never leave a cartridge or pin/nail in the gun. When you are finished or not going to shoot, the gun must be unloaded completely.
5. The tool must have a two-way safety that requires activation before it will fire. Both must be working properly.
6. The tool must have a 3 ½ inch minimum protective guard around the firing area.
7. You can not remove the guard and use the tool. Some tools have several types of guards, in all cases a guard must be in place.
8. Cartridges must be coded so you know which power and size you are using. Most are color coded.
9. Everyone working on the crew or immediate area must have the training, not just the person with the tool in his hands. Everyone.
10. One of the safety devices must be that the tool will not fire unless it is pushed against the surface.
11. Only approved fasteners/nails can be used.
12. If the tool is out, it must be attended. It can never be left out or laid down and not used.
13. If you have a misfire, you must wait at least 30 seconds before clearing and using the tool.

14. If you are anchoring a piece of wood to concrete, you can drive nails as close to the edge of the concrete as 2 inches. If you are just setting an anchor in concrete, you must stay 3 inches back from the edge or more. This is to keep the edge from fracturing and sending pieces through the air.
15. If you are driving fasteners at 3 or 2 inches from the edge, you must never shoot a fastener larger than a 7/32 shank.
16. Never use the tool with gasoline cans in the area.
17. Never point the tool at anyone or anything other than the surface you are working with.
18. Never shoot into wood or plywood unless it is to anchor into concrete. The nail can go through the wood and hit someone standing on the other side. These nails are very dangerous.
19. If the tool is defective – you must tag it out. You can not just put it back and do nothing.
20. These tools are very dangerous, a couple of times a year someone is killed with one and many eye and face injuries are reported. Take this tool serious as you would a gun.