

Tool Type Carving Tool

Experience Advanced

Injury Severity Needed Medical Attention

Description

I was carving a very small piece, too small to hold in a vise. There was no way to hide my thumb behind the project because it was too small. I thought I'd just be careful and not push too hard, but when a piece split off, the knife sliced my thumb all the way to the bone. It required four stitches and five years later it is still numb.

Advice

wear a protective glove for all carving.

Tool Type

Carving Tool

Experience

Advanced

Injury Severity

Needed Medical Attention

Description

It was late and I was under some pressure to get a figure carved. I was working on the shoulder of the hard maple rounding over some musculature and realized the chisel was not as sharp as it could have been. Still, it seemed adequate and I decided not to stop for the time it would take to re-hone the blade. Needless to say, I was not adequately focused and was certainly tired. The chisel slipped and went into my left index finger up to the bone near the first joint. Realizing I could not drive myself to the hospital, I had to wake the wife (it was after midnight) and she graciously and kindly assisted. Three stitches and loss of feeling in the entire finger. One more point: It is apparently NOT a good idea to apply ice to a severed nerve. We did this and for whatever reason it caused me to black out.

Advice

1 - don't work tired 2 - keep the tool sharp 3 - use hold downs or bench dogs 4 - keep the tool sharp 5 - careful of the ice.

Tool Type Carving Tool

Experience Intermediate

Injury Severity Needed Medical Attention

Description

Craving with a "chain saw " blade in an angle grinder. Tool caught and spun to the left across the back of my hand. \$1500 later I have a tendon repair of my thumb. And I was lucky! I missed the join by less than 1/32 of an inch. Don't have full range of motion but I am blessed.

Advice

This accident has changed my work style I ask two questions when faced with a "how to" problem. The first answer is how I can do something. The second is this a safe way to do it.

Tool Type

Carving Tool

Experience

Beginner

Injury Severity

Needed Medical Attention

Description

Cutting towards myself instead of away. The E.R. Dr. sure gave me a lesson.

Advice

Don't get your fingers in line with hand tools.