

What are the Major Causes of Grinding Wheel Breakages?

A grinding wheel is a safe tool when used properly. All grinding wheels are tested in accordance with ANSI B7.1 before Norton ships them. However, after the grinding wheels are shipped they may be subjected to any number of abuses and misuses. Listed here are some of the major causes of grinding wheel breakages.

- Using a grinding wheel damaged during transportation, storage or a result of careless or improper handling. Inspect all grinding wheels before mounting them on a machine. **NEVER MOUNT A DAMAGED GRINDING WHEEL.**
- Selecting the wrong grinding wheel for the job. **DON'T GRIND MATERIAL FOR WHICH THE WHEEL IS NOT DESIGNED.**
- Incorrect machine. **NEVER MOUNT A GRINDING WHEEL ON A MACHINE NOT DESIGNED AND GUARDED FOR THAT GRINDING WHEEL.**
- Machine speed higher than the grinding wheel speed. **NEVER OVERSPEED A GRINDING WHEEL.**
- Poor machine maintenance. **FAILURE TO PROPERLY MAINTAIN A GRINDING MACHINE CAN CAUSE GRINDING WHEEL BREAKAGES RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**
- The improper mounting of grinding wheels. See Safety Tip #1 for proper mounting procedures.
- Operator carelessness. **ALL GRINDING WHEELS CAN BE BROKEN IF NOT USED PROPERLY.**
- Lack of knowledge or training. **IF YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW TO USE A GRINDING WHEEL OR THE GRINDER, GET HELP!**
- Poor wheel balance caused by the failure to turn off coolant before stopping the grinding wheel. Always spin coolant out of a grinding wheel before shutting the operation down.
- Jamming the work into the grinding wheel.
- Force grinding, so that the motor slows noticeably or the work gets hot.
- Grinding on the wrong surface of a grinding wheel, i.e. grinding on the side of a Type 1 or straight grinding wheel.

For additional information on this topic or any other grinding wheel safety information, please review ANSI, OSHA and literature provided by the grinding wheel and machine manufacturer. You may also contact the Saint Gobain Product Safety Department at Tel. (508) 795-2690 or Fax. (508) 795-5120 for additional product safety information.

**PLAY IT
SAFE
AT THE
WHEEL**

