



# Preparing Wood for Turning

(while keeping your own limbs in one piece)

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## Injury Risks



Head Injuries **3,418**

20,000 – 40,000  
 emergency room visits  
 per year

Upper Body Area **2,141**

Laceration top injury  
 type – 110 stitches  
 average

Arm and Hand Area **17,994**

Most common injuries  
 are to back of left hand  
 and to legs

Leg Area **16,348**

Foot Area **2,885**

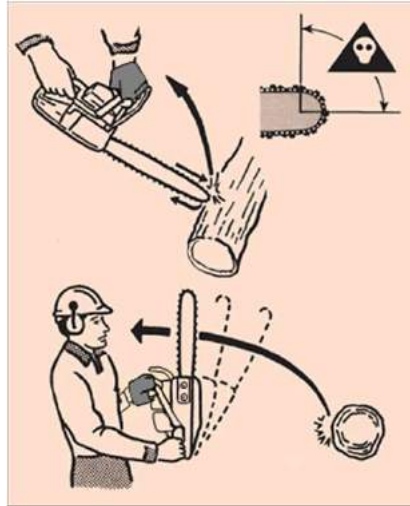
Kickback top cause of  
 accidents

Accident location and frequency  
 as related to chain saw use (1994)

U.S. Product Safety Commission

## Kickback

- Kickback occurs most frequently when the top of the tip of the bar comes in contact while the chain is running.
- Can also occur if the bar gets pinched during a cut.



## Safety - PPE

- Chainsaw Chaps
- Gloves
- Eye Protection
- Hearing Protection



## Safety – Handling the Saw



- Sharp Chain, proper tension
- Clear workspace – no trip hazards
- Workholding – stable, comfortable height
- Starting a saw – no drop starting
- Holding the saw – firm grip with both hands, left hand over hand grip
- Chain brake – use it

## Pros and Cons of Electric Saws

- Safety – saw cuts with torque with slower chain speed
- Chain stops sooner when releasing throttle
- Less maintenance
- No fuel mixing
- Quieter
- Does not cut as fast
- Limited by cord or battery



## What to Cut?

- What do you like to turn? Bowls? Spindles? Hollow Forms? Undecided?
- Having an idea of what you want to make impacts how you cut a log section.
- Bowls – half log sections or slabs
- Spindles:
  - Lamps – 4"x4" to 5"x5"
  - Rolling pins, pepper mills – 3"x3"
  - Ornament bodies and tops – 2"x2" to 2.5"x2.5"
  - Handles, small tops – 1.5"x1.5"
  - Finials and caps for ornaments – 1"x1"
  - Pen Blanks - .75"x.75"

## Cutting the Log

- Remove the pith
  - Smaller logs 6"-10" diameter can do one cut
  - Larger log 11"+ do two cuts
- Balance the grain
- Mark cut lines using level
- Saw the cut lines 90% of the way through
- Rotate material for final cut
- Finish on bandsaw