Hand Held Router Safety Rules

1) Inspect the router for any damage prior to use.

2) Inspect the router bit before each use and NEVER use a bit if the carbide is cracked or appears damaged in any way.

3) Make sure router is turned off before plugging it in.

4) Make sure the work surface is free from nails, knots, and other foreign objects.

5) Make sure the router bit is installed correctly and there is ¼” of shaft showing between the cutter head and the routers’ collet.

6) Place the workpiece securely in a vise or other recommended clamping device, or on a router pad. Holding the workpiece by hand is unstable and may lead to loss of control.

7) After turning on the router, wait until it has reached full speed before starting the cut.

8) Never start the tool when the bit is touching the workpiece. The bit may grab the workpiece and cause loss of control. Follow the tool manufacturer’s procedure for setting the depth of cut. Tighten adjustment locks.

9) For maximum control, hold the router firmly with both hands at arms length. The reaction torque of the motor can cause the tool to twist.

10) Always feed the cut against the direction of rotation (plough cut) unless performing a climb cut. Feeding the tool in the wrong direction (climb cut) causes the cutting edge of the bit to climb out of the workpiece and pull the tool toward the operator.

11) Never touch the bit during or immediately after use. The bit is too hot to be touched with bare hands.

12) Never lay the tool down until the motor and bit have come to a complete standstill. The spinning bit can grab a surface and pull the tool out of your control.

13) Return the bit to the tool cabinet after use. Never throw bits into the bottom of a drawer. The bits should be stored in a router bit holder. This will keep them sharp.

14) Always return the router to its case in the factory designed method, do not wind the cord around the router. This will eventually damage the cord.