**Jointer Safety Rules**

**Directions:** Before operating the Jointer you are required to know each of the following rules pertaining to operating and using the Jointer safely.

**Before Turning the Jointer On:**

1) Get permission from the instructor to use the Jointer.

2) Always wear safety glasses/safety goggles while using the Jointer and working in the shop.

3) NEVER adjust the outfeed table. This is a setting the instructor makes.

4) Visually check to make sure the infeed table is set at 1/16". You are NOT to make any adjustments to either the outfeed table or the infeed table. The maximum edge thickness that may be removed in a single pass is 1/8”. However, we’re going to leave the cutting depth set at 1/16”.

5) Make sure there are no scrap pieces or chips lodged between the cutter-head and either table.

6) Make sure the cutter-head guard is in place, covering the cutter-head. NEVER touch the cutter-head or the cutter-head knives. They are razor sharp!

7) Make any adjustments to the fence that may necessary BEFORE turning the Jointer on. Ensure the fence is locked in place.

8) Determine if the stock you’re wanting to joint is at least 2” wide and 12” long.

9) Stock less than 2” wide and/or 12” long may NOT be jointed on the Jointer.

10) Inspect stock for knots, checks, or cracks on the edge to be jointed. If any of those are present, do NOT joint that edge. Additionally, while we are using new wood, if any metal such as staples, nails or screws are found on an edge, do NOT joint that edge.

11) Do NOT joint end grain.

12) Determine the grain direction of the edge to be jointed.

**Operating the Jointer:**

13) Turn the dust collector on. Ensure that the restriction plate is “out”.

14) NEVER turn the Jointer on while stock is touching the cutter-head or cutter-head knives.
15) Turn the Jointer on and wait until it has reached full speed before starting to joint your stock.

16) Stand to the left side of the stock, NEVER behind it. Kickback, though rare, is possible.

17) If stock is real long, get help holding it while you feed it into the cutter-head. Ensure your helper is standing to the left side of the stock and NOT behind it. Keep stock up against the fence.

18) Feed stock into the cutter-head so that, generally, the grain direction is pointed down and back from the cutter-head. Feed stock slowly to achieve a smoother cut.

19) Keep at least one hand on the stock all the while you’re jointing using the Jointer.

20) Concentrate, Concentrate, Concentrate. Do not let yourself become distracted at any time while operating the Jointer. Keep your full attention on the stock, the fence, and where your hands are while cutting. Do NOT let your hands pass over the cutter-head.

21) As you feed your stock into the cutter-head and it passes onto the outfeed table, eventually you will need to move your left hand over to the outfeed table side. Continue pushing with your right hand while your left hand leaves the stock, comes out around the cutter-head, and then back to the stock over the outfeed table. Be sure that the stock continues to make contact with the fence during this transition.

22) As you are approaching the end of the pass, but before your right hand passes over the cutter-head, your right hand will need to leave the stock, come around the cutter-head, and again grab the stock while over the outfeed table. Again, make sure the stock maintains contact with the fence during this transition.

23) On rare occasions, when stock is fed into the infeed table and past the cutter-head it will get caught or stuck up against the outfeed table. If this happens to you, simply raise the stock slightly so that you may continue to feed the stock into the cutter-head.

24) Always turn the Jointer off and wait until it stops moving before making any adjustments that you are permitted to make.

25) If your stock is at or below the height of the fence, use push sticks to feed your stock into the cutter-head. You will have to continue pushing with the push sticks, even across the cutter-head.

26) Push stock past the guard before picking it up.

After Jointing Your Stock:

27) When finished working with the Jointer, turn the machine off and remain in the work zone until it stops moving.
28) Sweep excessive chips off of the infeed table so that the next users' stock will be able to make contact directly with the table instead of being raised up slightly by the chips left after you're finished jointing.

29) If push sticks were used, ensure that they are returned to their respective holders.

*Final Thoughts:*

30) If you're unsure about the application of any of these rules to your specific situation, ask the instructor.

31) While there are a variety of operations that the Jointer is capable of performing, we are going to restrict it's use to jointing edges of stock only.