

There are lots of ways that you can be injured at work. In fact, there are more than 20 ways to be hurt while working with punch presses alone.

Major trauma which can occur includes amputations, severe cuts, and being crushed. The primary cause of punch press traumas is “being caught between” and lack of safety guards, both of which should be very familiar to you.

Rather than dwell on the possible injuries, let’s think about some ways to avoid injury. There are always safety precautions that must be considered and with which you must be familiar. Basic safety procedures can be applied to any job. As a press punch operator, these safety procedures are critical to you, too.

If a press does not have adequate point-of-operation safety guards or devices, don’t use it. Never remove or adjust safety guards or devices or even repair a punch press unless your supervisor gives you approval to do so.

Alert your supervisor to any unusual noises or parts that are loose on the punch press. These particular safety rules are important because they emphasize how critical it is to keep your supervisor abreast of all things which pertain to your operation.

Remaining mentally alert is vital to any job and particularly vital when it comes to the safety of operating a punch press. You should focus completely on your work and not visit coworkers or fantasize while you are your job.



# PUNCH PRESS SAFETY

Because of the risk of getting them caught in the press, do not wear gloves when you are operating your punch press. If you have an absolute need to wear them, clear it with your supervisor first. Notify your supervisor in the event that the treadle begins to bind or if it actuates when moved less than the manufacturer-specified distance.

Cleanliness is another way to apply the basic safety procedures. Remove tools and other items off the punch press. Keep your job area clean and remove any items that might cause someone to slip, stumble, or fall. If there is not enough light to see properly, notify your supervisor.

Ensure that the punch press is properly lubricated and that the moving parts are kept in excellent repair. Be sure that your seat is not wobbly and that it won't tip over unexpectedly.

Have your punch press inspected by a qualified worker regularly. If the punch press is operating incorrectly, notify your supervisor immediately. Do not attempt to repair it yourself.

To sum it all up, remain vigilant at work and never try to adjust or repair the press unless authorized by your supervisor. Adhere to the proscribed safety procedures and you will remain healthy and safe.

## THE State Auto Group

*Corporate Headquarters Address:*

518 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

*Phone:* (614) 464-5000