

Wrenches and Pliers

Introduction

Wrenches and pliers are designed to grip, turn, or hold objects securely. Injuries often occur when workers use the wrong size, apply too much force, or modify the tool. Proper use prevents hand injuries and protects the work surface from damage.

Hazards & Controls

Using the wrong size wrench : Always match the wrench to the fastener size.

Slipping jaws on pliers : Use pliers for gripping, not turning bolts or nuts.

Makeshift extensions : Never add an improvised pipe or extension to increase leverage. Use the correct tool and manufacturer-approved method.

Safety Reminders

Where the task permits, pull in a controlled manner rather than pushing. Position yourself so a slip will not send your hand or body into a hazard.

Keep jaws of adjustable wrenches tight on the fastener.

Replace worn tools that no longer grip securely.

Engagement Questions

Why is it unsafe to use a cheater bar?

What's the proper way to pull on a wrench to avoid injury?

Sources and use notice

[CCOHS: Wrenches](#)

[CCOHS: Pliers and wire cutters](#)

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Wrenches and Pliers

Company: _____ Date: _____

Jobsite: _____ Presenter: _____

Time / duration: _____ Crew / shift: _____

Site-specific hazards and controls discussed

	Printed name	Signature
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Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

Signatures record participation only. They do not establish competency, certify compliance, or waive rights. Retain completed sheets under company policy. Print additional copies for larger crews.