

Grinder | SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)

TASK OR ACTIVITY: Grinder

Business Name: [Company Name]

ABN: [ABN]

SWMS#

Business Address: [Company Address]

Contact Person:

Phone: [Phone]

Email:

THIS SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU OF THE PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a safe work method statement (SWMS) is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:

Signature:

Title:

Date:

Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring and compliance of the SWMS, as well as reviews and modifications of the SWMS.

Full Name:

Title:

Phone:

ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS SWMS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED

NAME AND DATED SIGNATURE OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND COMMUNICATED TO IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF THIS SWMS

Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be scheduled in accordance with legislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, then to communicate those hazards and then to further take steps to either eliminate or control each hazard.

If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must stop immediately. Depending on the severity of the incident, a meeting will be called with all workers to amend the SWMS if required. The meeting may also be an educational opportunity.

Any changes made to the SWMS after an incident or a near miss must be approved by the Person Conducting Business or Undertaking and communicated to all relevant personnel.

The SWMS must be kept and be available for inspection at least until the work is completed. Where a SWMS is revised, all versions should be kept. If a notifiable incident occurs in relation to which the SWMS relates, then the SWMS must be kept for at least two years from the occurrence of the notifiable incident.

NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS












Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS Provide a detailed description of the specific work being carried out (otherwise known as scope of works).
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Project Manager Signature:	
Date SWMS supplied to Project Manager:	

ANY HIGH-RISK CONSTRUCTION WORK BEING CARRIED OUT

<input type="checkbox"/> involves a risk of a person falling more than 2 meters.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping.
<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on a telecommunication tower.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines.
<input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services.
<input type="checkbox"/> involves demolition of an element related to the physical integrity of a structure.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere.
<input type="checkbox"/> involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asbestos.	<input type="checkbox"/> involves tilt-up or precast concrete.
<input type="checkbox"/> involves structural alteration or repair that requires temporary support to prevent collapse.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor.
<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in or near a confined space.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant.
<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in/near a shaft or trench deeper than 1.5m or tunnel involving use of explosives.	<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.
<input type="checkbox"/> is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.	<input type="checkbox"/> involves diving work.

ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

<input type="checkbox"/> Forklift	<input type="checkbox"/> Crane/s	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoist/s	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavator	<input type="checkbox"/> Backhoe/Loader	<input type="checkbox"/> Boom Lift	<input type="checkbox"/> EWP	<input type="checkbox"/> Genie Lift
<input type="checkbox"/> Trencher	<input type="checkbox"/> Drilling Rig	<input type="checkbox"/> Trucks	<input type="checkbox"/> Formwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Bobcat	<input type="checkbox"/> Flammable Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Dozer
<input type="checkbox"/> High Voltage	<input type="checkbox"/> Mulcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Tilt-up Panels	<input type="checkbox"/> Roller	<input type="checkbox"/> Scissor Lift	<input type="checkbox"/> Tractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Other -	

RISK MATRIX										
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HEIRARCHY OF CONTROLS		
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Elimination Remove the hazard.		
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution Replace the hazard.		
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard		
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	Engineering Isolate the hazard.		
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records	Administrative Change the work.		
Notes on Hierarchy of Controls: Elimination methods are the most effective and preferred when controlling a hazard. Substitution is the second most effective method of controlling a hazard. Engineering by isolation is the third most effective, while Administrative Controls by changing the work is the fourth most effective method. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is the least effective method.										
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)										
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING PROTECTION	RESPIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
										
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Select the appropriate PPE above suitable for the equipment used or the job task being performed (if applicable).										
<p>Note: A SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains effective. A SWMS must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are revised. The review process should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors and subcontractors) who may be affected by the operation of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.</p> <p>When a SWMS has been revised, the person conducting a business or undertaking must ensure all:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> persons involved in the work are advised that a revision has been made and how they can access the revised SWMS; persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a result of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties consistently with the revised SWMS; and, workers that will be involved in the work are provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS. 										

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK	NAME OF PERSON
1. Preparation	Trip hazards, Inadequate ventilation	3M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspect the work area for any potential trip hazards, such as cords or debris on the floor, and ensure that these are removed or relocated to minimise the risk of tripping. - Ensure that there is adequate cable management in place for any electrical cords associated with the grinder, to prevent them from becoming entangled and posing a trip hazard. - Place highly visible signage around the work area to alert workers and visitors to the presence of trip hazards and request they maintain caution while traversing around the area. - Install anti-slip flooring mats in the area where the grinding work will be performed to help reduce the risk of slipping due to dust, debris or other material residue. - Utilise proper ventilation systems, such as exhaust fans or vents, to help circulate fresh air within the workspace and remove airborne dust and contaminants during grinding operation. - Periodically check the effectiveness of the ventilation system to ensure that it maintains proper functioning throughout the duration of the project. - Use air monitoring devices, if available, to evaluate dust levels and overall air quality within the workspace, ensuring that exposure remains below acceptable limits. - Provide workers with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including respirators or masks, alongside safety goggles to protect against dust inhalation and potential eye injuries. - Conduct routine maintenance checks on the grinder and its components, verifying proper operation before each use by checking guards, wheel attachments, and power supply connections. - Properly train employees in the safe operation of grinders, ensuring they understand the risks associated with this type of work and the appropriate preventative measures required. - Instruct workers to follow manufacturer guidelines when using grinding equipment, adhering to recommended speeds, techniques, and safety protocols. - Implement a comprehensive housekeeping plan that encourages regular cleaning of the work area, preventing an accumulation of dust and debris and minimising trip hazards. - Communicate with coworkers and supervisors about potential risks, ensuring that everyone onsite understands their responsibilities for maintaining a safe work area. - Establish an emergency response plan for the worksite, providing swift access to first aid kits or medical assistance in the event of an incident related to grinding hazards. 	1L	
2. Equipment inspection	Faulty equipment, Missing guarding	3H		2M	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a thorough pre-use equipment inspection before commencing work, ensuring all components are in proper working order, and that the grinder is fit for purpose. - Verify that all guards, including wheel, tongue, and work rest are securely fitted and adjusted correctly as per manufacturer's guidelines. - Check for any missing or damaged parts of the equipment, such as nuts, bolts, and handles, and rectify or report any findings prior to use. - Ensure grinding discs are free from cracks, excessive wear, or other damage that may compromise their structural integrity during operation. - Inspect the power cord and plug for signs of damage or wear, including fraying or exposed wires, ensuring they are fully functional and safe to use. - Test the functionality of the grinder switch, ensuring it can be easily turned on and off without malfunction or sticking. - Implement a pre-use visual inspection of the worker's personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety goggles, gloves, long sleeves, and hearing protection. - Institute a system for reporting and resolving faulty or malfunctioning equipment, including tagging out defective equipment to prevent accidental use. - Establish a training programme to educate workers on proper inspection techniques, usage and maintenance of grinder equipment, and the identification and control of hazards. - Install clear signage at work areas highlighting potential hazards associated with grinder equipment use and the necessary precautions to take. - Regularly maintain and service grinder equipment according to manufacturer recommendations, including lubrication, part replacement, and scheduled inspections. - Set up designated grinder equipment storage areas to reduce the likelihood of damage due to improper handling or external factors, such as moisture or temperature fluctuations. - Encourage open communication among workers and management regarding any concerns, incidents, or near-misses related to equipment inspection, enabling the continuous improvement of safety practices and procedures. 		
3. Tool setup	Ineffective guards, Improper PPE	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular inspection and maintenance of the grinder's guards to ensure they are in good working condition, covering all rotating parts, and securely fastened. - Conduct a thorough pre-use inspection of the grinding tool to check for any damages or defects that might compromise its function or safety. This includes checking abrasive wheels, flanges, and spindle nuts for secure connections and proper fitting. 	1L	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing workers with the appropriate PPE, including eye protection, face shields, earplugs or earmuffs, gloves, and protective footwear to mitigate the risk of injury from flying particles, noise, and vibration. - Ensuring that grinding wheels are correctly rated for the speed of the grinder being used, preventing potential breakage due to excessive rotational forces. - Training workers on the correct procedures for installing or changing grinding discs, including properly tightening the wheel and ensuring that it is seated correctly. - Adequate ventilation must be ensured in the work area to reduce the risk of airborne contaminants and dust from grinding activities accumulating and affecting workers. - Implementing administrative controls such as job rotation and rest breaks, reducing the duration of exposure to any potential hazards associated with the use of grinders. - Establishing clear communication procedures for reporting any issues with grinder equipment or observed hazards during operation, allowing prompt actions to minimise risk. - Enforcing strict adherence to safe work practices while using grinders, such as holding the tool securely and maintaining a proper body position relative to the workpiece. - Regularly reviewing and updating the SWMS based on site-specific factors, changes in the workplace environment, or newly identified hazards and control measures associated with grinder use. - Implementing a system of supervisory checks and audits to ensure compliance with established workplace health and safety guidelines surrounding the usage of grinding tools, including adherence to prescribed PPE requirements and adherence to control measures listed in the SWMS. 		
4. Secure workpiece	Unsecured workpiece, Inadequate clamping	3H	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	1L	

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			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
			[REDACTED]		
6. Cooling and lubrication	Fire hazards, Slip hazards	2M	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	1L	

[illegible]

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			<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>		
8. Equipment maintenance	Electrical hazards, Inadequate lockout/tagout	3H	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	2M	

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			<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>		
10. Waste disposal	Sharp objects, Hazardous chemicals	2M	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	1L	

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			<div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div>		
11. Emergency response	Delayed response, Lack of first aid supplies	2M	<div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div> <div>REDACTED</div>	1L	

[illegible]

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SAMPLE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.

SIGNATORIES OF THE SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT

The signed and dated personnel listed below have cooperated in the consultation and development of this Safe Work Method Statement which has been approved by the Person/s Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU). In signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual acknowledges and confirms that they have read this SWMS in full, having raised any questions for items on this Safe Work Method Statement that require clarification, and confirms that they are competent, skilled and knowledgeable for the task assigned to them. Every person acknowledges that they have received the relevant training and qualifications where required, before carrying out any work contained in this Safe Work Method Statement. By signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual agrees to work safely, to follow any safe work instructions which are provided, and agrees to use all Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.

Worker Name	Position	Signature	Date	Time	Supervisor
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		
			Date:		

SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

The SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains effective and must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are needed. The review process should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors and subcontractors) who may be affected by the operation of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.

When the SWMS has been revised the PCBU must ensure that all persons involved with the work are advised that a revision has been made and how they can access the revised SWMS, including all persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a result of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties consistently with the revised SWMS. All workers that will be involved in the work must be provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS.

The SWMS must be monitored regularly for the effectiveness of ensuring hazard controls are effective in reducing the risk of incidents, keeping the workplace safe for all personnel. The person responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Safe Work Method Statement should employ a multi-faceted approach which includes but is not limited to:

1. Spot Checks.
2. Consultation with workers, contractors and sub-contractors.
3. Internal audits on a continual basis.

An approach of continuous improvement, promptly recording inconsistencies or deficiencies, followed up by immediate corrective action and consultation with all relevant personnel ensures that the PCBU is consistently developing ever-improving systems of safe work principles.

REVIEW NUMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
NAME							
INITIALS							
DATE							

SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT REVIEW CHECKLIST

This Safe Work Method Statement Review Checklist is to be followed and used upon initial development of the SWMS to help ensure that all steps have been adequately taken before work commences. Think of this document as an internal audit review checklist before commencing work, and may form part of a Toolbox Talk (safety meeting) and may be used as an opportunity for education and training.

ITEMS WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE SWMS	COMPLETED	TO BE DONE	COMMENTS
The company details have been entered, including the project name and address.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Names and signatures of all relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) columns completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective solutions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the SWMS for the implementation of control measures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Permit requirements specified, such as Hot Work, Electrical Work, Work at Heights etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed are noted on the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, training, skills required to perform the work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Lists any required permits or licenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY	DATE REVIEWED		
SIGNATURE	DATE COMPLETED		