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HEALTH AND SAFETY  
AUTHORITY

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# Simple Safety Series



# Retail sector – Cuts

**Over 5000 people  
get injured every  
year in this sector!**



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# Simple Safety Sheet

- 1 Don't use a knife unless you have to.
- 2 Always cut away from you.
- 3 Use the right cutting knife for the job.
- 4 Store knives in a safe area.
- 5 Don't leave knives in public areas.
- 6 Inspect the knife or cutting tool for damage before you use it.
- 7 Don't use blunt blades.



Name	Signature	Date	Name	Signature	Date



# How to use sheets?

Ensure that sheet is relevant

Points are listed by priority

go through points in order

Confirm employees understand

Ensure each sheet is signed off

Sheets can be used as posters



# Briefing Aim



To support Simple Safety sheets

To outline cuts in the Retail sector

To provide more information





# 1 Don't use a knife

Don't use a knife **unless you have to**

Where possible, use a scissors or safety knife

Consider using pre-cut food rather than having to use knives

Order supplies in easy-open containers



## 2 Cut away from you



**Always** cut away from you

Never cut towards yourself

Where possible cut down onto a proper cutting board







## 3 Use the right knife

Use the right knife **for the job**

Do not use a very large sharp knife unnecessarily

Remove all knives that are not needed

Try to use safety-knives, retractable blades, etc.





## 4 Store knives a safe area

Store knives securely in a safe area

Ensure proper storage is provided

Label storage area as required

Do not leave knives lying around in storage areas etc.

Ensure proper knife available



# 5 Don't leave knives in public areas



Never cut outer packaging on shop floor and then leave knife on box, e.g. as you go to help a customer

## 6 Don't use blunt blades



Ensure cutting tools are adequate

Remove all blunt knives

Try to use safety-knives,  
retractable blades, etc.





# 7 Inspect before use

Inspect **the knife/cutting tool for damage** before use

Inspect knives for any damage before use, e.g. cracked handle/blade

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This is the end  
of the  
training  
Put the simple  
steps into  
use

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Keep records here



**Remember:  
if it doesn't seem  
safe  
it probably isn't**





# Topics in this series



Retail - Manual Handling

Retail - Slips, Trips & Falls

Retail - Cuts

Retail - Falling Objects

Retail - Falling from a Height



**END**

