dentally hitting the hose may unbalance the operator or cause the tool to fall from an overhead place An air hose on the floor should be protected against trucks and pedestrians by two boards laid on either side of it or by a runway built over it It is preferable to suspend hoses over aisles and work areas

Workmen should be warned against disconnecting the air hose from the tool and using it for cleaning machines or removing dust from clothing

Accidents sometimes occur when the air hose becomes disconnected and whips about A short chain attached to the hose and to the tool housing will keep the hose from whipping about if the coupling should break

A safety check valve installed in the air line at the manifold will shut off the air supply automatically if a fracture occurs anywhere in the line.

If kinking or excessive wear of the hose is a problem, it can be protected by a wrapping of strip metal or wire One objection to armored hose is that it may become dented and thus restrict the flow of air

Air power grinders require the same type of guarding as electric grinders Air valves, guards, and wheel speeds should be checked monthly

Pneumatic impact tools, such as riveting guns and jackhammers, are essentially the same in that the tool proper is fitted into the gun and receives its impact from a rapidly moving reciprocating piston driven by compressed air at about 90 psi pressure

Two safety devices are needed The first is a trigger located inside the handle where it is reasonably safe from accidental operation The machine operates only when the trigger is depressed The second is a device to hold the tool in place so that it cannot be shot accidentally from the barrel (Fig 30-23).

Small air hammers are generally not designed to use the device shown in Fig 30-23, but use a spring clip to prevent the tool and piston from falling from the hammer (Fig 30-24). Because small air hammers cannot use tool-restraining safety devices it is essential that employees be thoroughly trained in their proper use.

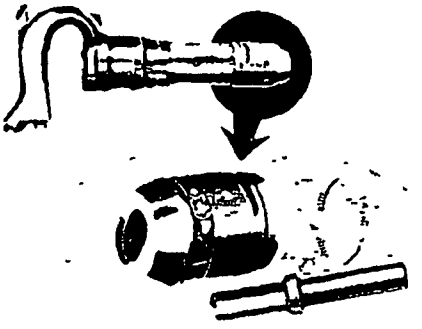


Fig 30-23 *A safety retainer to prevent discharge of the tool.*

Courtesy Chicago Pneumatic Tool Co

A safety rule to impress on all operators of small air hammers is *Don't squeeze the trigger until the tool is on the work*

Air-operated nailers and staplers The principal hazard from these tools is the accidental discharge of the fastener. In such instances, the fastener can become a dangerous projectile and inflict serious injury at considerable distance. Operators should be trained in the use of these tools and must follow the manufacturer's operating instructions

In the use of all pneumatic impact tools there is, of course, a hazard from flying chips. Operators should wear goggles, and if other employees must be in the vicinity, they should be similarly protected. Where possible, screens should be set up to shield

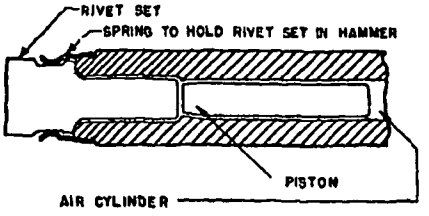


Fig 30-24 A spring clip like the one shown here should always be used to prevent rivet set from falling from a hammer.