



Northwestern University

Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz
Center for the Performing Arts

Shop Scrap Rules
Last Updated: 8/25/2021

Shop Scrap Rules

General Rules

- Do not overfill racks: if the rack is already full, switch your piece for the smallest piece and toss it
- Do not stuff racks to the point where pieces cannot be easily removed
- If you do not know where a piece of scrap belongs, ask.
- The following areas are for full sheets/sticks only:
 - Long shelves about radial arm saw (full sticks)
 - Frankenbridge bays (full sheets)
 - Gray shelves near roll-up door (full sheets)

What to Keep

Lumber:

Vertical Racks

- Partial sheets that are at least 2x4 (smallest bin)
- Partial sheets that are between 3x4 and 6x4 (medium bins)
- Partial sheets that are wider than 2' and longer than 6' (tallest bin)

Under-Table Saw Racks

- Strips that are between 3" and 8" wide, and longer than 7' (upper racks)
- Partial sheets that are between 8" and 2' wide, and longer than 6' (lower racks)

Under-Radial Arm Saw Racks

- Partial sheets that are between 2x2 and 3x3
- 1x3 or 1x4 sticks between 3' and 4' long
- 2x4 sticks between 3' and 4' long

Above-Radial Arm Saw Racks

- 1x3 and 1x4 stick goods at least 5' long (left of saw)
- 2x4 stick goods at least 5' long (right of saw)

Radial Arm Saw Bench

- Nothing should be stored here that interferes with the router table
- Ideally this area is kept clean (shop supervisor will clean this area periodically)

Purple Under-Stair Shelves

- Odd-sized stick goods around 4' and no narrower than 3" (upper shelf; no shorter than 3')
- Odd-sized stick goods around 6' and no narrower than 3" (middle shelf)
- Stick goods between 8' and 10' and no narrower than 3" (lower shelf)

Steel:

Long Steel Racks

- Full goods
- Minimum length: 8'

Above-Cold Saw Racks

- Between 4' and 8'

Under-Cold Saw Racks

- Between 2' and 4'

Cold Saw Bench



- Valuable small items that we might use again (shop supervisor will clean this area periodically)

What to Toss

Any stick good under 2'

Any sheet good smaller than 2'x2'

Any material covered by dried glue, staple heads, broken nails, etc.

Any material that has become significantly warped