



# Northwestern University

Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz  
Center for the Performing Arts

Shop Scrap Rules  
Last Updated: 9/19/2024

## 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)
  - Gray shelves near roll-up door (full sheets)
  - Horizontal sheet racks behind panel saw

### What to Keep

Lumber:

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
- Some odd-sized stick goods (e.g. 2x6, 2x8) as determined by shop supervisor

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)

Vertical Rack behind Panel Saw

- Tall sections: partial sheets that are over 2' wide
- Short sections: partial sheets that are between 3x3 and 4x4

Vertical

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