

Toolbox Talk: Identifying Construction Hazards

Housekeeping

1. Maintain Cleanliness

- **Prevent Tripping Hazards:** A tidy work area minimizes the risk of trips and falls. Regularly sweep and remove debris to keep the workspace clear.
- **Organize Materials:** Store materials neatly and away from active work zones. Proper storage not only reduces clutter but also enhances efficiency.

Extension Cords

1. Ensure Safe Usage

- **Check Grounding:** Use extension cords with grounded plugs. Inspect cords before use; damaged insulation means the cord should be taken out of service immediately.
- **Prevent Tripping:** Elevate cords and secure them to avoid tripping hazards. Ensure that cords are not stretched across walkways or work areas.

Electrical Panels

1. Cover and Protect

- **Panel Safety:** Ensure all electrical panels and boxes have covers in place to prevent electrical shocks.
- **GFCI Requirement:** Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) on all circuits supplying portable power tools to enhance electrical safety.

Scaffolding

1. Ensure Proper Setup

- **Complete Guardrails:** Scaffolds must be fully planked and equipped with toe boards, handrails, and mid rails to protect workers.
- **Stability:** Erect scaffolds on a solid, level base. Always use ladders to climb scaffolds; avoid climbing the outside and do not carry tools or materials while climbing. Utilize a hoist line for lifting tools and materials.

Ladders

1. Use Safely

- **Inspect Regularly:** Ensure step ladders are in good condition and properly maintained. Remove any broken or damaged ladders from service immediately.
- **Proper Use:** Do not lean step ladders against walls or work surfaces. For extension ladders, ensure they are properly tied off and avoid separating them while in use.

Slippery Surfaces

1. Prevent Slips

- Address Icy Conditions: Apply sand or other slip-resistant materials to icy surfaces to improve traction.
- Clean Spills Promptly: Immediately clean up oil and water spills. Be aware of small objects like welding rod ends and pipe stubs that can cause slips if stepped on.

Lighting

1. Ensure Adequate Illumination

- Minimum Standards: Provide at least 5 foot-candles of lighting in construction areas. Address any lighting issues promptly if they impair your ability to see your work clearly.
- Stairways: Ensure stairways are well-lit to prevent accidents.

Eye Protection

1. Wear Appropriate Gear

- Consistent Use: Always wear safety glasses in areas where eye protection is required. Ensure you have safety glasses on hand at all-times.
- Additional Protection: For tasks involving flying debris, such as grinding or cutting, use a face shield in addition to safety glasses to provide comprehensive protection.



Summary

To maintain a safe construction site:

- Housekeeping: Keep work areas clean and materials organized to prevent accidents.
- Extension Cords: Use properly grounded and elevated cords to avoid electrical and tripping hazards.
- Electrical Panels: Ensure panels are covered and use GFCIs for portable tools.
- Scaffolding: Construct scaffolds with complete guardrails, ensure stability, and use ladders safely.
- Ladders: Inspect and use ladders properly, ensuring they are in good condition and properly positioned.
- Slippery Surfaces: Apply slip-resistant materials and promptly clean spills to prevent slips.
- Lighting: Provide adequate lighting, especially in problem areas like stairways.
- Eye Protection: Wear appropriate safety glasses and face shields as needed to protect against eye injuries.

By adhering to these guidelines, you help ensure a safer work environment for everyone on site. Always prioritize safety and address hazards promptly to prevent accidents and injuries.



SAFETY TRAINING SIGN IN SHEET

TRAINING TITLE	Identifying Construction Hazards		
DATE & TIME		LOCATION	
COMPANY		TRAINER	

NAME	SIGNATURE	PHONE