



## FALLING OBJECTS

On site, workers can be exposed to injuries from flying or falling objects. These types of injuries can cause cuts, abrasions, concussions, or more severe ailments. Falling and flying objects are a concern especially when working with power tools, pushing/pulling loads, working under scaffolds, or performing any work overhead. Construction materials handlers, tree care workers, and manufacturing employees are especially exposed to being hit by flying or falling objects. However, working conditions should ideally not pose a risk of serious injuries to employees. By law, employers are required to provide a safe workplace free from recognized hazards for employees. One way to achieve this is to analyze job sites for hazards. Before work begins, a safety assessment of the worksite must be conducted in order to identify any hazards to employees. In addition, OSHA requires all employees to be trained on the specific hazards and associated safety measures involved with their specific jobs. This includes training on personal protective equipment that may be needed for each job assignment.

### Falling Objects Safety Practices:

- Assess the worksite for falling or flying object hazards.
- Consider floor opening, wind, power lines, and unstable soil when identifying hazards.
- Never work under suspended loads. Barricade hazard areas and post warning signs.
- Materials should not be stored within 6 feet of hoists or floor openings.
- Do not use tools with loose or cracked handles, as they could fly off and harm others.
- All workers must be trained to use tools for their task.
- Inspect tools before use.
- Train workers on safe operating practices for power tools.
- Secure tools and materials to prevent them from falling or sliding.
- Wear appropriate PPE for each task.
- Have emergency procedures in place before a job starts.
- Roofing materials and equipment should not be stored within 6 feet of a roof edge unless a guard rail is in place.
- Excess materials and devices must be kept away from working areas.
- Masonry and mortar cannot be stored within 4 feet of a working edge.
- Use guardrails and toe boards on scaffolds to prevent objects from falling.
- Use debris nets to grab falling objects.
- Use safety glasses if power tools produce flying objects. Check machines or power tools before use.
- If it is possible, do not work under moving loads.
- Make sure cranes and hoists are working properly before work begins.
- Place barricades and post warning signs near hazardous work zones.
- Do not exceed the lifting capacity of cranes and hoists.
- Attend all safety meetings and training sessions.

### Work Site Review: Hazards/Safety Suggestions

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Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Employee Signatures: (continue on back of sheet if necessary)

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(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness)

**Manager/Supervisor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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