

news & notes

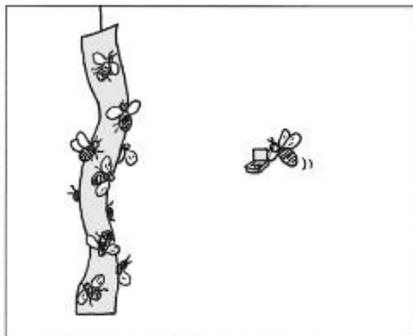
SAFETY SHOE SELECTION

Basic foot protection is a sturdy shoe or boot made of leather, rubber, or a synthetic. It has an impact-resistant toe—usually steel—and nonskid soles with rubber or synthetic treads to prevent slips and falls.

The American National Standard for safety-toe footwear referred to in the OSHA standard deals with the strength of the toe box. The top classification, 75, will withstand the impact of 75 pounds per square inch falling on your foot. As further protection in jobs where heavy objects could land on your feet, you might also wear footguards made of aluminum alloy, fiberglass, or galvanized steel over your shoes.

Other possible protections you may need in your shoes or boots are:

- Metal insoles or reinforced soles to protect against puncture
- Nonconducting soles and no nails in the shoes themselves if you work with electricity
- Rubber boots or shoes or leather shoes with wooden soles if you work in wet conditions
- Heat-resistant soles if you work in areas where the floor gets hot
- Easy-to-remove gaiters if you could get splashed by hot metal or by welding sparks
- Impermeable rubber or neoprene boots to wear over or instead of work boots if you work with corrosives or hazardous chemicals.



“Hey, as long as we’re all together, can I show my safety Powerpoint presentation?”



June 2015

Safety Is in Your Hands

Do your share for a safer workplace

When you think about workplace safety responsibilities, you probably think about all the regulations and all the requirements OSHA puts on management to identify hazards and protect you and your co-workers. And it’s true that management does have a big share in the responsibility for workplace safety. But OSHA also gives you a share of responsibility for safety on the job.

In return for the right to a safe workplace, OSHA assigns certain specific responsibilities to you and your co-workers, including the responsibility to:

- Obey OSHA standards.
- Follow workplace safety and health rules.
- Use assigned personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Participate in required safety training.
- Report hazardous conditions to management so they can take swift corrective action.
- Report job-related accidents, injuries, and illness to your supervisor and get medical attention.
- Cooperate with OSHA inspectors if they come to inspect our facility.

In addition to these OSHA-assigned safety responsibilities, we ask you to also:

- Take responsibility for learning everything you need to know about your job and work area so that you can always work safely.
- Avoid taking risks and engaging in any unsafe acts.
- Talk to your supervisor any time you have a question about your safety.
- Cooperate in our safety inspection and hazard analysis programs.
- Participate in safety committees and other safety initiatives.
- Look for ways to make your job and the workplace safer and make suggestions about how to do that.

If we all do our share and take responsibility for our safety and the safety of all our co-workers, we can’t fail in our mission to prevent accidents, injuries, and work-related illness. Sure, it’s a big job, and we have to remain vigilant and strive every day to hunt down and eliminate hazards. But together we can do it! Won’t you pitch in and join with your co-workers? We need you to succeed.

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EVERYONE BENEFITS FROM A SAFE WORKPLACE ...

Here's how:

- **Employees** avoid injury and illness.
- **Employers** are more productive and profitable because less time and money are lost to accidents.
- **The community** has cleaner air and water, and there's less chance of dangerous accidents like fires and explosions that can put lives and property at risk.

... AND EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR A SAFE WORKPLACE

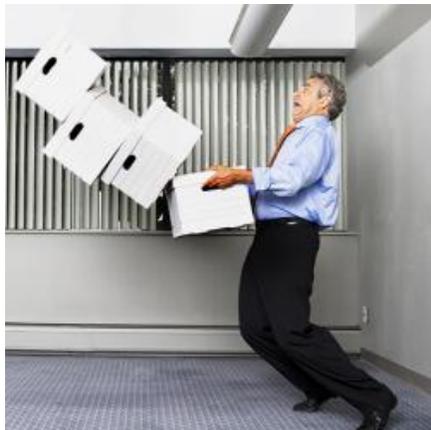
Here's how:

Employers:

- Make a commitment to provide a safe and healthful workplace.
- Develop programs designed to prevent accidents and illness.
- Train employees to identify hazards and follow safety procedures.

Employees:

- Take training seriously and apply what they learn on the job.
- Follow safety procedures at all times.
- Stay alert for hazards at all times.
- Report accidents, injuries, and illnesses immediately.



Safety Awareness Quiz

Safety is an important part of everyone's job

Being alert to hazards helps keep you safe on the job. Check the level of your safety awareness by reading the statements below and circling T for true and F for false.

1. Being aware of safety means having the right information to do the job safely. **T** or **F**
2. It's your supervisor's job to point out the hazards involved in your job. **T** or **F**
3. You can work safely yourself and even encourage your co-workers to do the same, but there is nothing you can do about unsafe conditions. **T** or **F**
4. Before you begin any job, you should think about what could go wrong and identify potential hazards. **T** or **F**
5. Most accidents are the result of unsafe conditions. **T** or **F**
6. While you work, you should be alert to anything that doesn't look, smell, or "feel" right. **T** or **F**

Answers:

- (1) True.
- (2) False. Your supervisor will certainly point out job hazards, but it's also your job to keep alert and look for hazards before you begin a job and while you're working.
- (3) False. You can and should remove, repair, or report unsafe conditions whenever or wherever you see them.
- (4) True.
- (5) False. Most accidents are caused by unsafe acts—because people aren't aware of hazards, because they aren't paying attention, or because they don't think safety is important in their job.
- (6) True. Report it to your supervisor.

Stop slipping!

Take precautions to avoid slips, trips, and falls

Practice good housekeeping, such as:

- Clean all spills immediately.
- Plainly mark spills and wet areas.
- Sweep or mop debris from floors.
- Remove obstacles from walkways and keep them free of clutter.
- Secure mats, rugs, and carpets that do not lie flat.
- Close all file cabinets and storage drawers consistently.
- Cover cables that are placed over walkways.
- Keep working and walking areas well lighted.
- Report burned-out bulbs and faulty switches.

Choose the right footwear—and regularly inspect, maintain, clean, alternate, and replace. Don't wear shoes with hard plastic or leather soles and heels. Also avoid smooth soles. Choose appropriate tread patterns; some tread patterns trap liquid and add to the risk of slips.

Take these safety steps:

- Take your time and pay attention to what you are doing.
- Adjust your stride and pace to the walking surface and task.
- Walk with your feet pointed slightly outward ("like a duck") on wet or slippery surfaces.
- Use a flashlight when entering a dark, unlighted space.
- Make sure you can see over loads you are carrying or pushing.