

Make Safety a Priority on the Job Site

Safety on the job site is something all employees should take seriously—nothing less than the future of your family is at stake. They are counting on you to provide food and shelter, and an on-the-job accident could very easily disable you, leaving security and future plans up in the air.

Together, you and your co-workers can get your own safety program off the ground by giving your supervisors or safety leaders ideas on how things can be made safer. Any idea, no matter how small it may seem to you, may prevent a serious accident.

If you are a seasoned employee, you can use your years of valuable experience to spot potential safety hazards. Or, if you are a new employee, you may be able to spot something right away that an old pro may have overlooked.

Here are some examples of rules you can follow to set an example for others and help your safety program succeed.

- Do not engage in horseplay on the worksite at any time—stay focused on the task at hand.
- Allow your coworkers to stay focused at all times by refraining from distracting actions.
- Always wear the required personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Watch your footing at all times, and never run to get where you are going.

- Remember that sanitation is key: keep yourself and your worksite clean and free from debris.
- Know your limits—never work at a height that makes you uncomfortable, especially if it will make you sick, dizzy or too nervous to safely perform.
- Never perform work that you are unauthorized to do.
- Make a conscious effort to remain visible, especially during night work or near motor vehicle traffic.
- Watch out for the safety of non-workers, too. Pedestrians or bystanders can be seriously injured or killed if construction workers do not practice caution.
- Know what to do in case of emergency, whether it's an on-the-job injuryor natural disaster.

In short, safety takes teamwork. Whatever your job is or whatever your duties include, keep your eyes open for hazards and report them. Help keep our safety program on solid ground!

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