

:: Stairs & Walking/Working Surfaces ::

We all walk around to get to and from work as well as during the job tasks we perform on a daily basis. Slips, trips and falls can cause serious injuries that can put you out of work and cause you to be “laid up” for quite some time.

You need to use caution while walking, and definitely be aware of the surface you are walking on, whether it's stairs, concrete, wood, dirt or grass. If you spill some type of liquid, clean it up immediately. If you can't do that, at least place a “Caution, Wet Floor” sign over/near the spill to alert others.

When mopping, make sure you have “Wet Floor” signs in place, and only mop half of the area at a time. Doing this will leave the other half available to walk on without having to worry about slipping due to the wet floor.

When carrying items, make sure you are able to see over the item, and make sure you are able to safely handle the load. When walking up or down stairs, hold onto the hand rails and do not run.

Wear the proper footwear! Work shoes should be sturdy, have nonslip soles and be totally sealed (that is, no open-toed shoes that expose the foot). Safety shoes are necessary for certain jobs and should, therefore, be worn (check with your supervisor to find out what jobs/tasks require safety shoes).

The information below will assist you in being safe while walking/moving around both at work and at home. Be cautious, aware and safe!

Keep all stairs and walkways clear of debris, obstructions and potentially slippery substances such as ice, snow, water, oil or grease.

Keep passageways free of tools, equipment and other materials.

When walkways and stairs are provided, use them; don't short-cut your safety to save a few steps or a few seconds. Hopping off loading docks or jumping over pipes saves no time (or money) if you are injured and cannot work!

Elevation changes in walkways should be “marked” so the change is plainly visible. Distinguishing the change alerts those unfamiliar with the walkway to the hazard.

Secure electrical cords so they do not run across walkways. If electrical cords must be laid across walkways, they should be in “channels” or another type of protective covering (such as masking tape) so no one can trip and fall over them.