

AGC Tool Box Safety Talk

WORKING ON ROOFS

INTRODUCTION

1. Review any accidents or “near accidents” from the past week.
2. Describe the hazards of the work as they relate to your project. Explain or show the SAFE way of doing the job.
3. Give the TOOL BOX SAFETY TALK

Work on roofs is one of the most common exposures to fall hazards experienced in the construction industry. Workers may encounter fall hazards during roof access and near roof edges. Roofers may also risk falls near skylights, roof hatches, and other openings. When working on roofs, provide fall protection as a backup system in the event a worker slips, trips, or falls.

- When there is risk of falls from low-sloped roofs with unprotected sides and edges six feet or more above lower levels, use fall protection such as guardrail systems, safety net systems, personal fall arrest systems or a combination of a warning line system and guardrail system, warning line system and safety net system, warning line system and personal fall arrest system, or warning line system and safety monitoring system.
- When there is risk of falls from steep roofs with unprotected sides and edges six feet or more above lower levels, use either guardrail systems with toe-boards, a safety net system, or a personal fall arrest system.
- Cover roof openings securely or surround with a guardrail.
- Use ladders correctly. Set up your ladder on a level surface at an angle consistent with the manufacturer's specifications. Extend the ladder 3 feet above the working surface, and tie the top securely to the roof. Always inspect the ladder before climbing it, and use another if it's damaged.
- Do not store materials and equipment near a roof edge unless guardrails are erected at the edge.
- When storing materials make sure the materials are stable and self-supporting.
- Watch for slipping and tripping hazards, such as slippery or wet areas or loose tools and equipment.

