



Common Unsafe Behaviors in Construction

Ensuring workplace safety stands as the topmost priority for all businesses. Instances of injuries, fatalities, and property losses predominantly stem from unsafe employee behaviors. It's crucial for all staff members to adhere diligently to the established rules and guidelines.

According to documentation from PA Training For Health & Safety, a significant proportion of workplace injuries and fatalities can be attributed to employees disregarding prescribed guidelines. Every employee must strive for safety and a commitment to adhering to the rules. This represents a key approach to prevent avoidable incidents within the workplace.

UNSAFE BEHAVIORS ON THE JOBSITE

Employees who deviate from established safety guidelines and rules put themselves and others at greater risk of causing injuries. Several potential scenarios may unfold when an employee fails to follow the rules. Here's a brief summary of common unsafe behaviors and issues that may arise in the workplace due to non-compliance:

- 1. Performing Tasks Outside Your Training.** There are proper training and certifications that employees need to obtain in order to perform certain jobs. Venturing beyond one's qualifications jeopardizes workplace safety, risking improper task completion, personal injury, or harm to others. It's essential to operate within one's job qualifications to optimize on-the-job safety.
- 2. Not Wearing Personal Protective Equipment.** Failing to wear the appropriate equipment and safety gear during work can result in injuries. These items are essential to prevent contamination, injury, or harm.

- 3. Trying To Multitask.** Employees should maintain 100% focus on their assigned tasks, especially when operating heavy equipment. Distractions like using cellphones on the jobsite or engaging in horseplay can divert attention from potentially hazardous tasks and lead to injuries.

COMMON UNSAFE BEHAVIORS IN CONSTRUCTION

Failure to adhere to guidelines and making unsafe decisions can lead to harm to yourself and coworkers. To prevent such incidents, strict compliance with rules is imperative. Here are prevalent unsafe behaviors:

- 1.** Lack of use of proper personal protective equipment (PPE)
- 2.** Misuse of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- 3.** Misuse and lack of responsibility when operating heavy machinery
- 4.** Unauthorized operation of machinery
- 5.** Use of faulty or poorly maintained equipment
- 6.** Improper use of safety equipment (e.g., seatbelts, safety glasses)
- 7.** Non-utilization of safety equipment (e.g., seatbelts, safety glasses)
- 8.** Engaging in tasks for which one is not qualified
- 9.** Poor maintenance of work area cleanliness
- 10.** Lack of visibility and access of emergency exits
- 11.** Congestion due to excessive workers in a specific area, necessitating extra care

HOW TO BE SAFE ON THE JOBSITE

Promoting Workplace Safety whether employed in a warehouse, construction site, or manufacturing plant, strict adherence to workplace safety regulations is necessary. Neglecting these guidelines may result in personal or others' injuries, highlighting the need to

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consider the safety of those around you. Here are some ways to steer clear of unsafe behaviors:

- 1. Be A Role Model.** Taking responsibility and demonstrating exemplary employee behavior is a choice. It's crucial to resist the urge to engage in playful or lazy conduct and strive to maintain safety, encouraging others to do the same.
- 2. Hold Yourself Accountable.** You possess the capability to effect positive change. Being accountable and holding oneself to higher standards aids in avoiding harmful behaviors at work. Most injuries occur when laziness and lack of awareness comes into play.
- 3. Don't Slack Off.** Adhering to safe behaviors at work is the only way to prevent injuries resulting from negligence. While accidents can happen, injuries stemming from unsafe behaviors are avoidable. Hence, paying attention, maintaining consistency, and owning safety are vital.

It is imperative to fully adhere to safety guidelines, as they are meticulously designed and put in place for a reason. Non-compliance only leads to injuries for oneself and others. Each employee should assume complete responsibility and strive to perform their job in the safest possible manner.

"Common Unsafe Behaviors in Construction Toolbox Talk - Raken." Raken, www.rakenapp.com/features/toolbox-talks/common-unsafe-behaviors.



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