



TAILGATE SAFETY

ROOFING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Of all the accidents associated with roofing, slips and falls are the most likely to cause serious injury, if not death. Approximately 30% of injuries to roofers are a result of slips or falls.

Cal/OSHA has regulations (Section 1730 of Construction Safety Orders) that are intended to address the issue of slips and falls as follows:

Single-Unit Roof Coverings – Slopes 0:12 to 4:12

On roofs with a height of more than 20 feet or if you are using backward-pulling machinery (such as felt-layers) regardless of height you must:

- Install flagged warning lines at approximately six foot intervals, with a minimum tensile strength of 500 pounds, 34 to 35 inches above the roof surface to warn workers of the roof edge.
- Unless conditions prohibit it, place headers consisting of sheets of roofing or other materials parallel to the roof edge.
- Place warning lines and headers no closer than 5 feet from the roof edge.
- Points of access, materials handling and storage areas shall be connected to the work area with a clear access path formed by two warning lines.
- You must stay inside the warning lines and headers except when work must be performed at the roof edge.

Single Unit Roof Coverings – Slopes greater than 4:12

On roofs higher than 20 feet, workers must be protected by one or more of the following: parapets 24 inches or higher, safety belts and lines, catch platforms, scaffold platform, eave barriers, or standard toeboards and railings. Use of backward-pulling equipment is not allowed.

Multiple Unit Roof Coverings – Slopes 0:12 to 5:12

Use of a roof jack system or a 24-inch high parapet on roofs of more than 20 feet high is required.

Multiple Unit Roof Coverings – Slopes Greater than 5:12

On roofs higher than 20 feet, protect workers by one or more of the following: parapets 24 inches or higher, safety belts and lines, catch platforms, scaffold platform, eave barriers, or roof jacks.

Other safe work practices that may prevent slips and/or falls include:

- Keeping your work area free of trash and equipment
- Storing materials neatly and away from roof edges
- Covering or barricading all skylights and other roof openings
- Wearing the appropriate footwear for the type of roof you are working on.

Reduce your chances of a slip or fall – Follow the rules

Training Tips: a) Discuss the slope of the roof you are working on. b) Discuss any protective requirements (footwear, fall protection, etc.). c) Allow your employees to openly discuss the hazards associated with working on a roof. Listen and respond to their concerns.



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