

10 Dos and Don'ts for Roofing Work



Every year the roofing industry leads in construction falls due to falling off roofs or ladders, and through skylights and unprotected roof openings. It is critically important to inspect job sites identify and correct hazards.

Do

Conduct a pre-start safety meeting

During the meeting discuss possible hazards and how you will mitigate or eliminate them, weather conditions, and safe use of the tools and equipment.

Inspect fall protection equipment

Before using fall protection equipment, inspect the equipment to be sure it is in good working condition.

Check ladder working conditions

Ensure that ladders are in good working condition, are secured properly before accessing a roof, and that employees are trained in the safe use of ladders.

Be aware of hazards

Make sure roof work areas are free of tripping hazards such as roofing materials, extension cords, and safety line ropes. To prevent falls, skylights should be guarded and roof openings should be covered.

Discuss heat stress

Share information on heat stress with employees daily. Train employees on the signs and symptoms of [heat illness](#) and make sure they have drinking water and shade.

Don't

Don't work near power lines

Contact with live unprotected electrical sources can be deadly.

Don't work in bad weather

Rain, snow, and heavy winds carry a big risk for slip and fall injuries.

Don't access roofs without fall protection

Adequate fall protection includes parapet walls, railings, scaffolding, and personal fall prevention systems.

Don't use an uninspected pneumatic nail gun

Only use a pneumatic nail gun once it has been inspected to ensure that the safety mechanism is working properly and that the operator has put on appropriate safety glasses/goggles.

Don't work near unprotected skylights and roof openings

Ensure that roof openings/holes are adequately covered and labeled, skylights are guarded, and controlled access zones are in place when required.

For more workplace safety information and safety meeting topics, visit www.SafeAtWorkCA.com.

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