

# **Building Construction— General Building Site Safety**

#### **Overview Of Topic**

General building site safety is a wide-ranging topic. To ensure safety at a general building site, construction safety rules of every kind have to be followed. This section cannot possibly cover all rules in depth and with great detail, but it can pinpoint the areas of particular concern for general building sites, including such things as tool use, excavations, and heavy equipment.

This section is not meant to cover every rule related to general building site safety, but to give an overview of general building site safety. All of the topics associated with site safety could easily provide enough information to be covered separately, and those are the topics that comprise the rest of the sections of this manual.

Some of the topics you may want to touch on during an overview of general building site safety include:

- 1. Awareness of heavy equipment and machinery moving around on the site, and how to operate the ones required for the individual's job.
- 2. Picking the right tool for the job, and using it properly.
- 3. Knowledge of specialized procedures related to work the employee may be involved in on the general building site, like:
  - Confined space entry.
  - Blasting/explosives.
  - Excavating.
  - Lockout/tagout.
  - Welding.
- 4. Knowing about and wearing the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work being performed.
- 5. Stopping work to correct safety hazards or notify the appropriate supervisor or area of the need to correct a safety hazard.

If you ensure employees are aware of these things during work on general building sites, the odds are your site will be much safer.

#### **Employee Training**

While there is no requirement to provide such training on general building site safety, such training generally makes employees more aware of the potential hazards on the type of site they are working on, and can improve general awareness of and attitudes toward safety on the general building worksite.

**OSHA state-plan-states:** Certain states have more stringent regulations than Federal OSHA. If you operate in a state-plan-state, check with your local OSHA office to determine if there are regulations that go above and beyond Federal OSHA.

#### **Training Tips**

You may want to combine this general building site safety training with more specific in-depth training on another topic covered in this manual. Such training sessions can easily be combined.

Use the work site as a training ground, going to the applicable area for the topic being discussed.

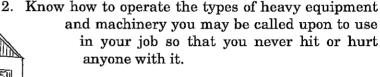
Conduct site safety training early in the morning, before traffic is too heavy around the site, or at midday, when workers are likely to need a break from heavy physical exertion in the noonday sun.

### General Building Site Safety

General building site safety is a wide ranging topic. To ensure safety at a general building site, you must follow a wide range of construction safety rules, not all of which can be covered here in depth or with great detail. To help you identify the areas of particular concern on general building sites, several general rules to be followed on general building sites are laid out here.

This section is not meant to cover every rule related to general building site safety, but to give you an overview of general building site safety.

1. Be aware of heavy equipment and machinery moving around on the construction site, such equipment can cause serious injury or even death if it hits or rolls over you.



- 3. Pick the right tool for the job at hand.
  - 4. Use all tools properly.
  - 5. Know specialized procedures related to specialized work that you may be involved in on the general building site, including any specialized procedures like:



- Confined space entry.
- Blasting/explosives.
- Excavating.
- Lockout/tagout.
- Welding.
- 6. Know about and wear the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work you are performing, it could save your life.
- 7. Stop work to correct safety hazards or notify the appropriate supervisor or area of the need to correct a safety hazard.

If you are aware of and follow these rules during work on general building sites, the odds are that you and your site will be much safer. Building sites are full of hazards you must be aware of and guard against.



# Building Construction— General Building Site Safety Sign-Off Sheet

This sign-off sheet documents the employees w Building Construction—General Building Site	-
Danting Complete Month Contract Danting Sive	(company name)
The session covered general rules for safe wor rules:	k on general building sites, including the following
Awareness and knowledge of hea	vy equipment and machinery on the site.
<ul> <li>Pick the right tool for the job at h</li> </ul>	and and using tools properly.
<ul> <li>Know about and wear the proper</li> </ul>	personal protective equipment (PPE).
<ul> <li>Stop work to correct safety hazar</li> </ul>	ds or notify the appropriate supervisor or area.
The space below is for each individual who ha	as been trained on this topic to sign his/her names.
Date of Training:	Job Location:
Employee Signature	Print Name Here
	Supervisor's Signature



### **Building Construction—Residential Construction**

#### **Overview Of Topic**

Residential construction poses special problems for contractors. In fact, OSHA is currently looking at the fall protection rule to make changes that better fit the issues found at residential sites. In the meantime, OSHA has implemented an OSHA Instruction Standard 3.1—Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction until the rule can be modified.

Also OSHA has teamed up with the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) to produce a handbook that contractors can use to meet OSHA requirements for residential construction.

This toolbox talk will "briefly" highlight each issue found in that handbook. The handbook stresses that if there is ever any inconsistency between it and the OSHA regulations, the OSHA rules will always prevail. The handbook information should never be considered a substitute for any provisions of a regulation.

Orientation & training—Do workers in your company receive safety orientation and training on applicable OSHA standards, company safety requirements, and/or have enough experience to do their job safely?

**Personal protective equipment—**Do your workers use all required and provided personal protective equipment?

Housekeeping & access around site—Are all walkways and stairways kept clear of trash/debris and other materials such as tools and supplies to prevent tripping?

Are boxes, scrap lumber and other materials picked up and disposed of to prevent fire and tripping hazards?

Stairs & ladders—Are manufactured and job-made ladders in good condition and free of defects?

Are ladders secured near the top or at the bottom to prevent them from slipping and causing falls?

Scaffolds & other work platforms—Are all erecting and dismantling operations under the direct supervision of your competent person?

Do you ensure all scaffolds are inspected by your competent person before each use?

**Fall protection**—Do you use other fall protection systems like slide guards, roof anchors, or alternative safe work practices when a guardrail system cannot be used?

When working on a roof with a pitch over 4:12 up to 6:12, are slide guards installed along the roof eave after the first three rows of roofing material are installed?

**Excavations and trenching**—Do you find the location of all underground utilities by contacting the local utility locating service before digging?

Do you keep the horizontal width of the foundation trench at least two feet wide? Make sure there is no earth vibration while workers are in the trench.

**Tools & equipment**—Do you inspect tools regularly to ensure they are safe and defect free? Do you tag and remove broken or damaged tools from the jobsite?

Vehicles & mobile equipment—Do you maintain back-up alarms for equipment with limited rear view or use someone to help guide them back?

**Electrical**—Do you remove broken or damaged tools and equipment from the jobsite?

**Fire prevention**—Do you provide fire extinguishers near all welding or soldering projects, or other sources of ignition?

#### **Employee Training**

The OSHA rules require you to train all employees to recognize and avoid unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment to control or eliminate the hazards (1926.21(b)(2)).

#### **Training Tips**

Jobsite safety covers a multitude of areas. Use this time to implore your employees to "be always on the alert" for jobsite hazards, do not take chances with them, and alert fellow employees and their immediate supervisor.

#### Where To Go For More Information

OSHA Instruction Standard 3.1—Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction.

NAHB/OSHA Jobsite Safety Handbook.

#### **Residential Construction**

Residential construction poses special problems for construction workers. In fact, OSHA is currently looking at revising the fall protection rule to make changes that better fit the issues found at residential sites. In the meantime, OSHA has implemented an OSHA Instruction Standard 3.1—Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction until the rule can be fixed.

Also OSHA has teamed up with the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) to produce a handbook that contractors can use to meet OSHA requirements for residential construction. This toolbox talk will "briefly" highlight each issue found in that handbook.

#### **Orientation & training**

Do you receive safety orientation and training on OSHA standards, company safety requirements, and/or have enough experience to do your job safely?

**Personal protective equipment**—Do you use all required and provided personal protective equipment?

Housekeeping & access around site—Are all walkways and stairways kept clear of trash/debris and other materials such as tools and supplies to prevent tripping? Are boxes, scrap lumber and other materials picked up and disposed of to prevent fire and tripping hazards?

Stairs & ladders—Are manufactured and job-made ladders in good condition and free of defects? Are ladders secured near the top or at the bottom to prevent them from slipping and causing falls?

**Scaffolds & other work platforms**—Are all erecting and dismantling operations under the direct supervision of your company's competent person? Are all scaffolds inspected by your competent person before each use?

Fall protection—Do you use other fall protection systems like slide guards, roof anchors, or alternative safe work practices when a guardrail system cannot be used? When working on a roof with a pitch over 4:12 up to 6:12, are slide guards installed along the roof eave after the first three rows of roofing material are installed?

**Excavations and trenching**—Does your company find the location of all underground utilities by contacting the local utility locating service before digging? Do you keep the horizontal width of the foundation trench at least two feet wide?

**Tools & equipment**—Do you inspect tools regularly to ensure they are safe and defect free? Do you tag and remove broken or damaged tools from the jobsite?

**Vehicles & mobile equipment**—Is all equipment with a limited rear view equipped with back-alarms, or does someone help guide them back?

Electrical—Are broken or damaged tools and equipment removed from the jobsite?

**Fire prevention**—Do you provide fire extinguishers near all welding or soldering projects, or other sources of ignition?



# Building Construction—Residential Construction Sign-Off Sheet

The session covered:  • Fall protection rule revisions.  • National Association of Homebuilders Handbook.  • General worksite safety.  The space below is for employees to "sign-off" that they were in attendance.  Date of Training:	This sign-off sheet documents the names of Building Construction—Residential Construction	employees who attended this training session on tion at(company name)
National Association of Homebuilders Handbook.     General worksite safety.  The space below is for employees to "sign-off" that they were in attendance.  Date of Training:  Employee Signature  Print Name Here	The session covered:	(company name)
• General worksite safety.  The space below is for employees to "sign-off" that they were in attendance.  Date of Training: Job Location:  Employee Signature Print Name Here	<ul> <li>Fall protection rule revisions.</li> </ul>	
The space below is for employees to "sign-off" that they were in attendance.  Date of Training:  Employee Signature  Print Name Here	<ul> <li>National Association of Homebuilder</li> </ul>	s Handbook.
Date of Training:  Employee Signature  Print Name Here	<ul> <li>General worksite safety.</li> </ul>	
Employee Signature  Print Name Here	The space below is for employees to "sign-off"	that they were in attendance.
	Date of Training:	Job Location:
	Employee Signature	Print Name Here
		<u> </u>
	-	
		O and the state of

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION—RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SIGN-OFF