

TOOL BOX TALKS

Job Site Holes

Construction Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention



Holes in rooftops, walkways and work surfaces cause serious injuries. Look for HVAC openings, stairwell openings, skylights and doors that open out to unfinished decks. Use these tool box tips to prevent falls through holes.

Tool Box Tips

Best Practices:

- Holes two inches and greater must be covered.
- Hole covers shall be affixed to prevent accidental removal.
- Hole covers must be clearly marked “hole.”
- Sheetrock employees using stilts could easily fall into a small HVAC register hole.
- When stair openings are cut make sure all sides are guarded.
- Install guardrails if employees could fall through a window, door or dormer opening.

Skylights

- Skylights are dangerous and need to be covered.
- Skylights are considered holes because they become brittle and do not support weight.



Set up guardrails if employees could fall through a window, door or dormer openings.



Large openings require guardrails. Use toe boards if tools could fall on employees below.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

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