

April 22nd TBT

Construction Site Housekeeping TBT 4-22-2024

First off, let's define what housekeeping is. **Housekeeping is the act of keeping your jobsite clean and tidy.** It means garbage is put where it needs to be, material is stacked and organized in an organized fashion. Also, access and egress points are kept clear of debris and material.

Good housekeeping practices on a construction site include:

- Gathering up and removing debris to keep the work site orderly.
- Planning for the adequate disposal of scrap, waste, and surplus materials.
- Keeping the work area and all equipment tidy.
- Designating areas for supplies or waste materials and providing containers.
- Removing combustible materials such as wood and paper from the site promptly.
- Keeping form and scrap lumber with protruding nails cleared away from work areas, passageways, and stairs.
- Promptly removing or bending over protruding nails prior to disposal and storage.

10 Tips for good housekeeping on a construction site

1. Designate an area for rubbish and waste outside and inside the buildings.
2. Stage, stack, and store materials in a safe and orderly manner.
3. Maintain a safe work area. Don't leave scraps and debris laying around causing trip hazards.
4. Keep access routes (stairwells and doorways) clear.
5. Put tools away when you're finished using them.
6. Set an example for others around you.
7. Don't let cables and cords trip you up.
8. If it's broken, FIX IT!
9. Avoid fire risks.
10. Make others aware of hazardous activity.

Keeping your work areas clean during the workday lessens the load on everyone. Doing this reduces risk to slips, trips, and falls. These incidents are the #1 types of incidents in Worker's Compensation claims.

OSHA Standard 1926.25 Housekeeping states:

(a) During the course of construction, alteration, or repairs, form and scrap lumber with protruding nails, and all other debris, shall be kept cleared from work areas, passageways, and stairs, in and around buildings or other structures.

(b) Combustible scrap and debris shall be removed at regular intervals during the course of construction. Safe means shall be provided to facilitate such removal.

(c) Containers shall be provided for the collection and separation of waste, trash, oily and used rags, and other refuse. Containers used for garbage and other oily, flammable, or hazardous wastes, such as caustics, acids, harmful dusts, etc. shall be equipped with covers. Garbage and other waste shall be disposed of at frequent and regular intervals.

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Revision #5

Created 2024-04-17 15:12:19 UTC by Dale Bergman

Updated 2024-04-17 15:16:59 UTC by Dale Bergman