

Dropped on the Same Level: Falling Object Struck-by Hazards

If tools, equipment, or materials are dropped by an individual on the same level, they could injure themselves or coworkers nearby.

Protect workers by:

- Having them secure tools and materials to prevent them from falling. Small tools (less than 5lbs) can be tethered to the worker.
- Using measures such as toeboards, screens, guardrails, debris nets, catch platforms, or canopies to prevent, catch, or deflect falling objects.
- Barricading hazard areas and posting warning signs.
- Requiring use of personal protective equipment, such as hard hats and steel-toe footwear.
- Inspecting all tools and equipment before use. Hand tools with loose or cracked handles should not be used.
- Keeping materials away from floor openings or leading edges.
- Keeping work areas, equipment, and tools clean.
- Training workers on hazards and ways to prevent an incident.

Planning Resources

- [Job Hazard Analysis](#)
- [Building Information Modeling \(BIM\) for Safety Planning](#)
- [Using Debris Nets](#)
- [Using Tool Lanyards, Connection and Anchorage Points](#)
- [CPWR's Head Protection Webpage](#)
- [OSHA Competent Person Resources](#)
- Preventing Struck-by Incidents from Dropped Tools & Other Objects: [Play Recording](#); [PDF of Slides](#)

Training Resources

- Toolbox Talks:
 - [Preventing Falling Objects](#)
 - [Challenges Preventing Falling Objects](#)
 - [Solutions for Falling Objects and Dropped Tools](#)
 - Equipment: Falling Objects ([English](#), [Spanish](#))
 - Head Protection ([English](#), [Spanish](#))
- Hazard Alert Cards:
 - Preventing Head Injuries ([English](#), [Spanish](#))
- Posters/Infographics:
 - Stop the Drop (English [PDF](#) & [JPEG](#))
 - How Heavy is Deadly? (English [PDF](#) & [JPEG](#))
 - Head Protection (English [PDF](#) & [JPEG](#))
 - In 1 Strike You Could Be Out (English [PDF](#) & [JPEG](#))
- Webinars:
 - Preventing Struck-by Incidents from Dropped Tools & Other Objects: [Play Recording](#); [PDF of Slides](#)
 - Prevención de Incidentes por Atropellos: Zonas de Trabajo, Equipos Pesados e Impacto de Objetos: [ver video](#); [descargar presentación](#)

Relevant Standards

- OSHA Standard 29 CFR - <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926>

- [1926 Subpart C - General Safety and Health Provisions](#)
 - [1926.20 - General safety and health provisions.](#)
 - [1926.21 - Safety training and education.](#)
 - [1926.22 - Recording and reporting of injuries.](#)
 - [1926.23 - First aid and medical attention.](#)
 - [1926.25 - Housekeeping.](#)
 - [1926.26 - Illumination.](#)
 - [1926.28 - Personal protective equipment.](#)
 - [1926.29 - Acceptable certifications.](#)
- [1926 Subpart E - Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment](#)
 - [1926.95 - Criteria for personal protective equipment.](#)
 - [1926.96 - Occupational foot protection.](#)
 - [1926.100 - Head protection.](#)
 - [1926.102 - Eye and face protection.](#)
 - [1926.104 - Safety belts, lifelines, and lanyards.](#)
 - [1926.105 - Safety nets.](#)
 - [1926.107 - Definitions applicable to this subpart.](#)
- [1926 Subpart G - Signs, Signals, and Barricades](#)
 - [1926.200 - Accident prevention signs and tags.](#)
- [1926 Subpart H - Materials Handling, Storage, Use, and Disposal](#)
 - [1926.250 - General requirements for storage.](#)
 - [1926.251 - Rigging equipment for material handling.](#)
 - [1926.252 - Disposal of waste materials.](#)
- [1926 Subpart R Steel Erection](#)
 - [1926.759 - Falling object protection.](#)
- [1926 Subpart T - Demolition](#)
 - [1926.850 - Preparatory operations.](#)
 - [1926.852 - Chutes.](#)
 - [1926.853 - Removal of materials through floor openings.](#)
 - [1926.854 - Removal of walls, masonry sections, and chimneys.](#)
 - [1926.855 - Manual removal of floors.](#)
 - [1926.856 - Removal of walls, floors, and material with equipment.](#)
 - [1926.857 - Storage.](#)
 - [1926.858 - Removal of steel construction.](#)
 - [1926.859 - Mechanical demolition.](#)
 - [1926.860 - Selective demolition by explosives.](#)
- American National Standards Institute (ANSI):
 - [ANSI/International Safety Equipment Association \(ISEA\) 121-2018 - Dropped Object Prevention](#)
 - [ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2014 \(R2019\) – Head Protection](#)

Nudges to Improve Planning

- Job Site Posters: *see Training Resources above*
- Text Messages

Target Audience	Texts: General	Texts: Specific
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Supervisors and Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the Drop: Keep you and your co-workers safe by planning to prevent dropped tools, equipment, and materials. • Stop the Drop: Follow the plan to prevent struck-by incidents to keep you and your co-workers safe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning to prevent struck-by incidents from dropped tools, equipment, and materials should include training workers on the hazards and how to prevent an incident. (Supervisors)
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- Email Messages

Example:

Dear [],

Safety is everyone’s responsibility – especially those who supervise others. It’s important to remember that if tools, equipment, and materials are dropped by an individual on the same level, they can injure themselves or a coworker nearby. Create a plan before work begins using CPWR’s Struck-by Planning Program and communicate it with your workers to prevent injuries caused by dropped objects. As part of your plan, you should:

- Have workers secure tools and materials to prevent them from falling. Small tools (less than 5lbs) can be tethered to the worker.
- Use measures such as toeboards, screens, guardrails, debris nets, catch platforms, or canopies to prevent, catch, or deflect falling objects.
- Barricade hazard areas and posting warning signs.
- Require use of personal protective equipment, such as hard hats and steel-toe footwear.
- Inspect all tools and equipment before use. Hand tools with loose or cracked handles should not be used.
- Keep materials away from floor openings or leading edges.
- Keep work areas, equipment, and tools clean.
- Train workers on hazards and ways to prevent an incident.

Please reach out if you have any safety concerns or questions. Stay safe!

[Name]

- Stickers



CPWR has a simple “Sphere of Safety” hardhat sticker design that can be downloaded and printed. We also have limited supplies available for free, which can be ordered by contacting Grace Barlet at gbarlet@cpwr.com.

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