

# WORKING ON EXISTING DECKING

## Avoiding falls through decking

A walking or working surface such as wood or steel decking may look safe and supportive, but to protect yourself and others from falls, always be sure to:

- ▶ Inspect all decking underneath and on top, where possible, before work begins.
- ▶ Repair or replace sections of bad decking.
- ▶ Fall protection is required at all times. At a minimum, workers should wear a Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS) with anchor points positioned to avoid swing-fall hazards and strong enough to support 5,000 lbs per employee attached. Some deck replacement may require fall restraint solutions.
- ▶ Cover any opening and, in an easily visible color, mark the cover with the word HOLE or COVER in the language(s) of all workers on the job site. Secure it properly and ensure it is capable of supporting twice the weight of personnel, materials, or equipment that may be on top of it at any one time.
- ▶ Be aware of work occurring below the roof. Avoid struck-by injuries by securing tools and materials.



For more information on fall prevention and protection, visit [stopconstructionfalls.com](https://www.stopconstructionfalls.com)



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*Three simple steps to preventing falls.*

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