

OSHA Violations to Avoid

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Overview

Many OSHA violations are common and easy to avoid. It is good to be reminded of some of the most frequent and easily corrected activity or items that might cause an OSHA violation. Avoiding situations that could result in an OSHA violation will not only keep you and your crew safe, but will result in a more profitable job.

For Discussion Electrical Safety

- GFCIs missing in required areas.
- Practice proper lockout/tagout.
- Wire in traffic areas or being run over.
- Disconnect not within sight of a motor.
- Multi-wire circuit violations. When sharing a neutral, follow NEC 210.4 requirements.
- Overloaded circuit panels or inaccurate or missing circuit panel directories.
- Covers missing from boxes, receptacles and enclosures.

Fall Protection

- Inspect your safety harness.
- Inspect your lanyard.
- Inspect your anchorage points.

Work Practices

- Know which tools, equipment, and PPE you will need to do the job.
- Know the location of emergency exits, fire extinguishers, and sources of assistance.
- Inspect PPE, tools, and equipment before use.

Ladders

- Never use aluminum ladders for electrical work or in the vicinity of power sources.
- Use a ladder tall enough for the job.
- Inspect each ladder before use.
- Use the three-point contact method when climbing. (Two hands and a foot or two feet and a hand on the ladder at all times.)
- Do not sit or stand on the top step of any ladder.
- Position a straight or extension ladder so that it is one foot out at the base for every four feet of vertical distance.
- Access ladders must extend 3' above the upper level.

Other

- Practice good housekeeping.
- Use only inspected scaffolding.
- Wear proper PPE, including your hardhat and safety glasses.
- **Keep proper records.** OSHA has announced that it will increase its efforts to monitor record-keeping and ensure that proper safety programs are in place.

Questions

1. What should you do with a ladder before using it?
2. What are some electrical violations?
3. What are some things you should inspect prior to starting a job?