



Housekeeping at the Worksite

Good housekeeping begins with individual pride and proper work planning. Take a look around your work area today. Are materials stacked up and out of the way? Are your tools in the right places? Do you have cords placed overhead or positioned where they do not create tripping hazards? No matter what task you're involved in, take some extra time to clean up as you work to prevent accidents and injuries.

If you do any electrical work, be sure to pick up after yourself. Don't allow thread cutoff stubs to fall onto the floor where they can become a skating hazard for your co-workers who may step on them. When you cut pieces of electrical conduit, put cutoffs directly into a container and then dispose of all those small pieces at the end of your shift. Keeping the small stuff off of the floor can prevent slips, trips, and falls. It's worth the extra time to avoid possible injuries.

If your tasks require you to work in a stairway, consider that other workers will need to walk up or down around you. Keep drop cords and power tool cords out of the path of travel. Pick up your tools when they're not in use or use a tool belt to keep them out of the way.

If you have a lunch or another designated eating area do your part to keep it clean. Put lunch wrappers, bottles, and cans in the closest waste or recycling receptacle. Don't throw trash on the ground because that can create rodent problems in the area.

When you arrive at the worksite in the morning, watch your step when heading to your work area. Look out for vehicle curb bumpers or trailer hitches sticking out from the rear of trucks. Use trash barrels provided in parking lots to clean trash out of your car. Take a moment to think about the whole worksite. Are there any areas where housekeeping could be improved? Are there tripping hazards that could be corrected? What can you do today to reduce the potential for accidents? Good housekeeping isn't just about preventing slips, trips, and falls. Keeping tools and materials where they belong means you can find the right tool and the right part when you need them to get the job done quickly and safely.

Practice the housekeeping skills you learned from your mother—pick it up and put it away.

SAFETY REMINDER

Make it a practice to wipe up, even after small spills. Water and other liquids can create slippery situations.