

Slips, trips and falls

Introduction:

Slips, trips and falls can happen to anyone, any-time, anywhere. No single method can be used to prevent all slips and falls.

The most common causes of slips and falls include: unsafe use of ladders, jumping on or off equipment, slippery surfaces, inappropriate footwear, poor lighting, obstacles on walkways, inattention and rushing.

Hazards:

- Hoses and cords on the ground.
- Housekeeping conditions.
- Blocked aisles.
- Items stored on the stairs.
- Spilled liquids or small parts.
- Ladders.
- Snow or ice accumulation.
- Wet surfaces.

Safe procedures:

- Make sure cords and hoses do not cross common walkways.
- Properly store items when not in use.

- Properly cover floor drains and openings.
- Do not store items in the aisle or on stairs.
- Clean up spills immediately. Place a “Wet Floor” sign in the area.
- Mount and dismount ladders and equipment properly. Do not jump!
- Remove ice and snow from common walk areas, especially exit areas.
- Place runners at entrances to catch slush and water as people enter in the winter.
- Pay attention to the area you are walking.
- Consider purchasing non-slip shoes.

In conclusion:

Awareness is critical. The most common causes of slips and falls include: unsafe use of ladders, jumping on or off equipment, slippery surfaces, inappropriate footwear, poor lighting, obstacle on walkways, inattention and rushing.