



Preventing Slips, Trips, and Falls: Stay Steady, Stay Safe

Did You Know?

- Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common and preventable workplace accidents.
- They are relevant year-round but particularly important in November due to weather-related hazards like wet or icy surfaces and reduced daylight.

Common Hazards

1. **Wet or Icy Surfaces:**
 - Rain, ice, or frost can create slick walking surfaces.
2. **Cluttered Work Areas:**
 - Tools, equipment, and materials left in walkways.
3. **Poor Lighting:**
 - Dim or insufficient lighting in stairwells or outdoor areas.
4. **Uneven Surfaces:**
 - Unmarked steps, cracks, or other irregularities in walking areas.

Preventive Measures

- **Clean as You Go:** Keep all walkways, staircases, and work areas clear of clutter and debris.
- **Use Proper Footwear:** Wear slip-resistant shoes suitable for the environment.
- **Inspect and Repair:** Check for spills, loose cords, uneven flooring, or other hazards and address them immediately.
- **Utilize Handrails:** Always use railings when on stairs or elevated surfaces.
- **Light It Up:** Ensure adequate lighting in work areas, especially during darker winter months.
- **Report Hazards:** If you see a potential hazard, report it to your supervisor immediately.

Seasonal Safety Tips

- **Prepare for Ice:** Salt or grit icy walkways before starting work.
- **Stay Dry:** Wipe wet shoes at entrances and encourage coworkers to do the same.
- **Watch for Leaves:** Wet leaves can be as slippery as ice—clear them from work areas.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you seen or experienced a slip, trip, or fall on the job? What caused it?
2. What measures could we take to prevent such incidents here?

Closing Thought

"Every step matters—taking small precautions can prevent big accidents. Stay alert, stay steady, and stay safe."

Team Checklist for Slips, Trips, and Falls

- Are walkways and work areas free of clutter and debris?
- Are wet or icy surfaces treated with salt, grit, or mats?
- Is the lighting adequate in all work areas?
- Are tools and materials stored properly?
- Have all hazards been reported or addressed?