



December, 2017

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Remember if you have any safety suggestions, questions or concerns please let us know. In addition, if you have a safety topic that you would like covered in a Safety Page for training purposes let us know and we will develop one. Topics to our inventory of monthly Safety Pages are continually being added.



The OHBA/SAIF Safety Pages are an ongoing series of pages, designed to provide a selection of safety topics each month to OHBA members. Please use these pages to add to (or start) either a Safety Committee file or manual for your company. Some of the Safety Pages will be on general topics and others will be for Owner/Supervisors. The Owner/Supervisor Safety Pages will be on topics based more on compliance or suggested management safety practices.

IMPORTANT NOTICE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Oregon Home Builders Association Safety Committee’s purpose is to provide safety guidelines, information and resources to help our members work more safely and reduce jobsite accidents. Full and active monthly participation in safety meetings using the OHBA Safety Committee’s agendas, topics and checklists will only meet safety committee requirements. It remains your responsibility to comply with all aspects of safety rules and regulations.

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Protecting Your Head Is More than Skin Deep!

OHBA Safety Pages



WEAR YOUR HARD HAT

See Also –
Oregon OSHA Rules: **1910.135, 437-002-0135 & 1926.100**
American National Standards Institute: **Z89.1-2009 & Z89.2-1971**
Oregon OSHA Fact Sheet:
<http://osha.oregon.gov/OSHAPubs/factsheets/fs03.pdf>



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Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number in crew: _____ Number attending: _____

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Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

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Supervisor's remarks: _____

Supervisor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Jack & Demo Hammer Safety

OHBA Safety Pages

Pneumatic / Electrical Jackhammers

When using a jackhammer:

- Wear proper PPE: eye protection, steel-toed boots, hearing protection; and safety gloves.
- Rotate workers, whenever possible, when jackhammering for extended periods of time.
- Position the jackhammer as near as possible to the work location. Place the compressor as far as possible from the work area to reduce the level of noise.
- Inspect the jackhammer and associated equipment regularly for defect or damage. Check if all components are complete, securely in place (or tightened) and in good condition. Make sure to do this, too, before every shift or start of operations.
 - Check air hoses for breaks, cracks, and worn or damaged couplings.
 - Ensure that the rating of the hose is sufficient for the job intended.
 - Inspect the electrical cord for frays, wear and other signs of damage.
- Secure hose ends to prevent whipping if an accidental cut or break occurs
- Workers must sling the electrical cord on their shoulder to prevent its accidental swerving which can cause electrocution.
- Use the proper weight of the jackhammer for the job. Use a lighter jackhammer for the job as much as possible.
- Use the proper point for the material to be broken. Remember to use rock point for rock, spade point for asphalt, and chisel point for concrete. Never use a broken or cracked point.
- Lift the jackhammer properly by using the legs. This helps you avoid back strain or injury.
- Position the bit where you wish to start the cut, then widen your stance to an athletic position prior to pulling the trigger.
- Operate the tool at a slight angle with it leaning back towards you. This way, you prevent the point from getting stuck in the material and the tool from getting out of control.
- Check for dust when operating jackhammer – If necessary, use water suppression and/or respiratory equipment to limit exposure levels.
- Do not jackhammer down beyond the depth of the cutting bit.
- Release air trigger whenever lifting up on the jackhammer. If jackhammer trigger is operated when jackhammer is not being held down with pressure, it could jump around uncontrolled and injure the worker.
- When moving the jackhammer from place to place during operation, place your hand between the handle and the operating lever.
- Shut off the air supply and relieve pressure from the supply hose before changing tool points. Do the same when leaving the jackhammer unattended.
- Immediately remove defective or malfunctioning jackhammers and other tools until they are properly repaired.
- Barricade the work area as much as possible to keep spectators and untrained personnel from getting exposed to the hazards of jackhammer operations.
- In the event that the jackhammer bit “gets stuck”:
 - Attempt to free the bit by moving the jackhammer back and forth from side to side.
 - If bit is still stuck, put a second bit into the jackhammer and work at stuck bit from a different angle.



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Supervisor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Powder Actuated Tool

OHBA Safety Pages

Powder-actuated tools operate like a loaded gun and should be treated with the same respect and precautions. While they are designed with safety in mind, they are potentially very dangerous and must be operated by properly trained employees who are equipped with all necessary PPE to protect against potential risks.

Recommended PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

- Eye Safety – Safety Glasses or Safety Goggles
- Hearing Safety – Ear Plugs or Ear Muffs
- Faces Safety – Face Shield – This depends on the scope of work, what type of material are you shooting into?

Before Using

- Test powder actuated tools each day before loading to ensure that the safety devices are in proper working condition. Any tool found not to be in proper working order shall be immediately removed from service until repairs are made.
- Inspect a tool before use to determine that it is clean, that all moving parts operate freely and that the barrel is free from obstructions.
- Conduct a thorough study of each job site. Know the types of materials you'll be driving into so you can select the proper stud and cartridge. Also, know what is on the other side of a wall and what is inside it, such as electric wires, pipes or wire chasers.

Using the Tool

Dos:

- Do hold the tool perpendicular to the work surface.

- Do use tools with the type of shield or muzzle guard appropriate for a particular use.
- Do wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as eye and hearing protection, when using powder actuated fastening tools.
- Do load immediately before firing only. Never carry a loaded tool from one job to another.

Do Nots:

- Do not point the tool, whether loaded or not, at any person.

- Do not load the tool until just prior to the intended firing time.
- Do not leave tools or powder charges unattended in places where they would be available to unauthorized persons.
- Do not use a powder actuated tool in an explosive or flammable atmosphere.
- Do not drive fasteners into very hard or brittle materials such as cast iron, glazed tile, surfaced hardened steel, glass block, live rock, face brick or hollow tile.
- Do not drive fasteners into soft materials unless such materials are backed by a substance that will prevent the pin or fastener from passing completely through and creating a flying missile hazard on the opposite side.
- Do not drive fasteners into an existing hole unless a positive guide is used to secure accurate alignment.

Jams and Misfires

- Never attempt to release a loaded tool that has jammed in the firing position. Place it in a safe place and check the manufacturer's manual.
- If a misfire occurs, hold the tool against the work surface for 15 to 30 seconds. Do not remove the tool from the work surface when opening the tool and removing the defective load. Check the manufacturer's recommendations for disposal instructions in case of a misfire.



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Supervisor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)

Forklift Safety - #2

OHBA Safety Pages

Forklift are very helpful pieces of equipment. However, forklift accidents tend to be very serious, involving both personal injury and damage to property. These accidents can be avoided if operators follow safe operating procedures. Do not operate a forklift until you have been properly trained and authorized to do so.

Basic Forklift Safety Practices

Here are a few common safety rules to follow during forklift operation:

- Use the seatbelt. It will keep you secured in the seat during the unplanned event of a tip over.
- A parked forklift should have the forks flat on the floor/ground with the controls set to neutral and with the parking brake set.
- A forklift is considered to be “unattended” if the operator is more than 25 feet away or if the forklift is out of the direct vision of the operator. Unattended forklifts should be parked with the power turned off.
- When operating without a load on the forks, keep the forks approximately four to six inches off the floor when traveling so as not to snag anything.
- Keep arms and legs within the protective structure of the forklift.
- When operating the forklift on inclines, the load should always be on the uphill side of the incline. Drive forward going up the incline. Drive backward going down the incline.
- Never allow anyone to walk underneath a raised load.
- Stop at all blind corners to check for other traffic in the area. This includes other forklifts and pedestrians. Honk your horn and look before you proceed.
- If carrying a tall load that blocks your forward vision, drive in reverse and turn your head so you can see where you are going.
- If operating around other forklifts maintain a three-forklift length distance between forklifts and never attempt passing.
- Before getting off a forklift, lower the forks so they are flat on the ground, neutralize the controls, and set the brakes. Use three points of contact when getting on or off a forklift.
- Inspect forklifts daily or after each shift if they are used round-the-clock. Forklifts not in safe operating condition must be removed from service. The data plate must be in place and readable.



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Did You Know?

When it comes to excavations and the potential hazards of underground utilities, Oregon OSHA's specific requirements are:

- The location of utilities must be determined before opening an excavation
- The exact location of the installations must be determined by safe and acceptable means
- While excavations are open, underground installations must be protected, supported, or removed as necessary to safeguard employees

Of course, there are other excavation rules that go beyond underground utilities. They include specific excavation requirements and requirements for protective systems. It's all spelled out in Oregon OSHA's Division 3/Subdivision P/Excavations. Planning before you dig reduces the chance that something will go wrong when you start a job. Consider the following before you start excavating:

- Debris near the excavation site that could create a hazard
- How employees will get in and out of the excavation
- How to protect people from falling into the excavation
- How to respond to emergencies
- Location of overhead power lines and underground utility lines (Call 811 from anywhere in Oregon for help in locating underground utility lines)
- Possibility of atmospheric hazards in the excavation
- Possibility of water in the excavation
- Stability of soil at the excavation site
- Stability of structures adjacent to the excavation site
- Vehicles and other mobile equipment that will operate near the excavation
- Weather conditions

DATAPOINTS:

- Dig a hole in the ground and you've made an excavation. Excavations can be any size: wide, narrow, deep, or shallow. A trench is a narrow excavation, not more than 15 feet wide at the bottom.
- If you install forms or other structures in an excavation that reduce its width to less than 15 feet, measured at the bottom, the excavation is also considered a trench.
- If you work in an excavation that's five feet deep (or deeper), you must be protected from a cave-in. If a competent person determines that there's a potential for an excavation to cave in, you must be protected, regardless of its depth.
- A cave-in can trap you within seconds and kill you within minutes.
- Two cubic yards of soil weigh about 6,000 pounds. If you're buried, you'll suffocate in less than three minutes. Even if you survive, the weight of the soil is likely to cause serious internal injuries.