

Ramps and Runways

Ramps and runways are an integral part of almost every jobsite. However, many ramps and runways are not properly constructed resulting in a jobsite hazard to anyone on the site and as a source for damaged materials.

Guide for Discussion

General rules for ramps and runways:

- Keep them free from job junk (debris).
- Provide suitable traction.
- Consider standard guardrails (with or without toeboard) on both sides to prevent falls.
- Ramps with a minimum width of eighteen (18) inches may have only one guardrail.
- Never exceed a twelve foot span (maximum) without bracing.
- All walkways used in lieu of stairs must have cleats.
- Give plenty of clearance when workers are carrying or pushing materials.
- Don't overload with people or materials.
- Keep all loads moving.
- Don't stop on a ramp or runway with a load.
- Never work under a ramp or runway; the load may wind up on you.

Danger signs for ramps and runways:

- Not wide enough.
- Not properly supported or nailed.
- Too steep an incline.
- No cleats.
- Bad spots or uneven walkways.

Additional Discussion Notes:

When guardrails are mandatory.

Other danger signs.

Remember: It makes good sense to erect safe and accessible ramps and runways. A failure to do so is just like setting up booby traps throughout the job.

Attendees:

NOTE: Always promote a discussion on any of the topics covered in the Tool Box Talks. Should any question arise that you cannot answer, don't hesitate to contact your Employer.