

## Toolbox Talk # 54

# HOUSEKEEPING



Company Name:	
Job Name:	
Date:	

### Key Points

1. Good housekeeping on construction sites means keeping the area clean, organized, and free of hazards, which is key to a safe and efficient environment.
2. Poor housekeeping leads to slips, trips, and falls—the most common injuries on site—and can also hide hazards like sharp objects or spills.
3. Regularly remove waste materials such as scrap wood, packaging, and empty containers to prevent clutter and fire hazards.
4. Keep walkways, stairs, and emergency exits clear at all times to ensure safe movement around the site and quick evacuation if needed.
5. Store tools, cords, and equipment in designated areas when not in use to prevent tripping hazards and reduce the risk of damage or malfunction.
6. Immediately clean up spills, especially of oils, solvents, or water, and use warning signs to alert others until the area is safe.
7. Secure loose materials and supplies to prevent them from falling or shifting, particularly when working at heights or in windy conditions.
8. Encourage a culture of accountability where all workers take responsibility for maintaining a tidy and safe workspace.

**National Safety Council**

*"Poor housekeeping is a leading cause of injuries in construction"*



## Top 5 housekeeping risks...

1. **Slips, Trips, and Falls** – Caused by debris or uneven surfaces.
2. **Falling Objects** – Tools or materials not properly stored.
3. **Fire Hazards** – Flammable waste near ignition sources.
4. **Blocked Exits and Access Routes** – Obstructed emergency paths.
5. **Dust Accumulation** – Inhalation risk and reduced visibility.



1. Is my work area free of trip hazards?
2. Have I properly stored all tools and materials?
3. Are walkways and exits clear and accessible?
4. Did I clean up waste and debris today?

Tools in place,  
clean your space,  
Safety first in  
every case.

## Summary

Good construction housekeeping means keeping work areas clean and organized. Put away tools, clear walkways, remove trash, store materials safely, and clean up spills right away. This prevents accidents, helps work go faster, and keeps everyone safer on the job site.



OSHA emphasizes good housekeeping to prevent slips, trips, falls, and fire hazards on construction sites. Keeping work areas clean, organized, and free of debris is essential for maintaining a safe environment and avoiding preventable accidents.

### Key Housekeeping Regulation

#### 29 CFR 1926.25 – Housekeeping

This regulation requires that all passageways, storerooms, and service areas be kept clean and orderly. Removing waste promptly and maintaining clear walkways helps reduce tripping hazards and supports overall site safety.



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ATTENDEES

Print Name:	Signature:

Additional Comments: