

Toolbox Talk # 4 FORKLIFT SAFETY

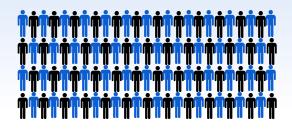


Company Name:	
Job Name:	
Date:	

Key Points

- **1. Always wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)**. This includes a hard hat, high-visibility vest, safety shoes, and a seat belt to ensure maximum safety.
- **2. Inspect the forklift before each use**. Check for visible damage, leaks, or malfunctioning parts, and report any issues to a supervisor immediately.
- **3. Follow proper load capacity guidelines.** Never exceed the forklift's rated load capacity to prevent tip-overs and accidents.
- **4. Use caution on inclines, ramps, or uneven surfaces.** Never park a forklift on a slope without securing it with wheel chocks.
- **5. Avoid distractions while operating.** Do not use mobile phones or listen to music. Maintain clear visibility by keeping the load at a safe height and looking in the direction of travel.
- **6. Maintain a safe speed and follow site rules.** Avoid sharp turns or sudden stops to prevent tipping or loss of control.
- **7. Ensure proper communication in shared workspaces.** Use horns, signals, or alarms to alert others of your movements, especially in high-traffic areas.

Forklifts account for roughly **85 fatal** accidents and **34,900 serious** injuries in the United States each year.



Top 5 forklift hazards

- 1. Tip-Overs: Forklift overturns can crush operators or bystanders.
- 2. Collisions: Poor visibility or speed can lead to accidents.
- 3. Falling Loads: Unsecured loads can drop and cause injuries.
- 4. Pedestrian Strikes: Forklifts hitting workers cause severe injuries or fatalities.
- 5. Mechanical Failures: Faulty brakes or hydraulics increase accident risks.



- 1. Do I have the necessary training and certification?
- 2. Am I familiar with the operating environment?
- 3. Do I have a clear understanding of forklift safety guidelines?
- 4. Am I aware of emergency procedures?



Summary

Forklift safety is crucial because it prevents accidents and injuries in workplaces. Proper training, maintenance, and following safety protocols reduce the risk of collisions, tip-overs, and falling loads, ensuring a safer working environment for everyone.

OSHA

OSHA sets safety standards to prevent forklift-related injuries, requiring operator training, proper forklift maintenance, and adherence to safety protocols like speed limits and load capacity. Operators must use seatbelts and caution in congested areas.

Operator Training and Certification (29 CFR 1910.178(I))

OSHA mandates that only trained and certified operators can use forklifts. Training must include formal instruction, practical exercises, and an evaluation of the operator's performance. This regulation ensures operators understand safe handling practices, load capacities, and the risks involved, reducing the likelihood of accidents.







Toolbox Talk # 4 FORKLIFT SAFETY



ATTENDEES

Print Name:	Signature:	
Additional Comments:		