

Toolbox Talk # 48 DROPPED OBJECTS



Company Name:	
Job Name:	
Date:	

Key Points

- **1. Dropped objects** are a leading cause of injuries and fatalities on construction sites, especially for workers below.
- **2. Using tool lanyards** and tethering equipment prevents tools and materials from falling from heights.
- **3. Properly securing loads** and materials on scaffolding and elevated work areas reduces the risk of objects becoming dislodged.
- **4. Maintaining a clean** and organized worksite helps prevent loose objects from being accidentally knocked over.
- **5. Wearing hard hats** provides essential protection against head injuries from falling tools or debris.
- **6. Installing debris nets**, toe boards, and catch platforms helps minimize the impact of dropped objects.
- **7. Adhering to OSHA regulations** regarding dropped object prevention ensures compliance and reduces liability.
- **8. Conducting regular safety inspections** helps identify and address potential hazards before they cause an incident.

A tool dropped from 30 feet can reach speeds of 60 mph, with impact forces comparable to a small car!



Top 5 dropped object risks...

- 1. Head Injuries Falling tools can cause serious skull trauma.
- 2. Fatalities Heavy objects dropped from heights can be deadly.
- 3. Equipment Damage Falling items can destroy tools and machinery.
- **4. Site Disruptions** Dropped objects can halt work and cause delays.
- 5. OSHA Violations Poor object control can lead to fines.



- 1. Is everything I'm using properly secured from falling?
- 2. Am I keeping tools and materials away from edges?
- 3. Are workers below protected from potential falling objects?
- 4. Am I wearing the right PPE, like a hard hat?



Summary

Dropped objects on construction sites cause serious injuries and delays. Workers should secure tools, use lanyards, install barriers, and keep work areas organized. Wearing hard hats and staying aware of overhead hazards reduces risks, ensuring a safer environment for everyone on-site.

OSHA

OSHA highlights the risk of dropped objects on construction sites, which can cause serious injuries. Employers must ensure proper securing of tools, materials, and equipment to prevent falls, using safety barriers and proper training.

Key Regulation:

Under 29 CFR 1926.251(a), OSHA requires materials and equipment to be properly secured to prevent falling. The General Duty Clause (Section 5(a)(1)) mandates that employers create a safe work environment, including protecting workers from hazards like falling objects through proper safety practices.







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ATTENDEES

Print Name:	Signature:	
Additional Comments:		