

OSHA Walking Working Surfaces General Industry Instructor Guide

Introduction: This course introduces walking-working surfaces and their role in workplace safety under OSHA's 1910 Subpart D standard. It covers requirements to keep work areas clean, orderly, and sanitary, defines walking-working surfaces, and outlines employer responsibilities for hazards such as spills, obstructions, and unsafe conditions. The course also includes training on recognizing fall hazards and using protective procedures.

How to Use This Material: The instructor should guide students through the modules sequentially, facilitating discussions, practical demonstrations, and hands-on labs where applicable. This material can be integrated into undergraduate, community college, or introductory OSHA certification courses. It provides hands-on experience and theoretical knowledge, preparing students for real-world applications.

Lesson 1: Types of Hazards and Controls

- Identify common slip, trip, and fall hazards
- Differentiate between hazard types (slip, trip, fall, structural, stairs, ladders)
- Recognize root causes of incidents
- Apply control measures to reduce risk

Instructor's Role: Guide learners in recognizing hazards through discussion and examples. Reinforce that hazard awareness is the foundation of all prevention strategies.

Lesson 2: Fall Hazards in the Workplace

- Explain the hierarchy of controls and its importance
- Identify best practices for fall prevention
- Select appropriate fall protection equipment
- Recognize high-risk situations (ladders, platforms, stairways)

Instructor's Role: Help learners connect theory to application by walking through real scenarios. Clarify differences between prevention vs. protection and when each is used.

Lesson 3: Fall Protection

- Identify types of fall protection systems (guardrails, PFAS, safety nets)
- Understand proper use and inspection of fall protection equipment
- Explain when fall protection is required
- Recognize employer and worker responsibilities related to fall protection

Instructor's Role: Demonstrate or describe proper equipment use and stress the importance of inspection and rescue planning. Address common misuse or misconceptions.

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Lesson 4: Employer Responsibilities and Requirements

- Explain employer responsibilities under OSHA standards
- Identify worker rights (reporting hazards, training, protection)
- Describe proper hazard reporting procedures
- Understand shared responsibility for workplace safety

Instructor's Role: Facilitate discussion on accountability and safety culture. Reinforce that safety is a shared responsibility between employer and employee.

Lesson 5: Best Practices and Simulation

- Apply best practices for maintaining safe walking-working surfaces
- Identify and correct hazards in real-world scenarios
- Demonstrate safe behaviors on stairs, ladders, and walkways
- Reinforce proper housekeeping and hazard prevention techniques

Instructor's Role: Act as a facilitator during scenarios—prompt learners to explain their decisions. Encourage critical thinking rather than simply giving answers.

Final Assessment

- Demonstrate understanding of key course concepts
- Apply hazard recognition and prevention strategies
- Show knowledge of OSHA requirements and best practices
- Students must achieve an 80% or higher to pass.

Instructor's Role: Support learners as needed but allow independent completion. Use results to identify knowledge gaps and reinforce key topics.

Conclusion: This course emphasizes that slips, trips, and falls are predictable and preventable when hazards are properly identified and controlled. The final simulation brings these concepts together by placing learners in a realistic environment filled with hazards such as spills, damaged surfaces, unprotected edges, obstructed walkways, and improperly stored materials. Learners must actively identify and assess these risks, reinforcing their ability to recognize both obvious and less visible dangers in a real-world setting.

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Simulation Operating Instructions

The user interface of the simulation allows participants to visualize the inside of a manufacturing facility. Participants will be required to:

- Follow on-screen prompts and instructions for identifying potential hazards
- Once a hazard has been located click on it in order to mark it
- Look and climb up higher to identify all hazardous situations including slips, trips, falls, and obstructions

Simulation Operation Controls



Movement:

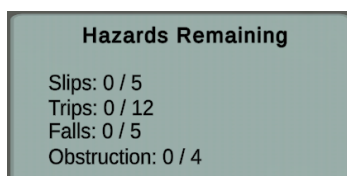
- W:** Move Forward
- A:** Strafe Left
- S:** Strafe Right
- D:** Move Backwards



Move the **mouse** to look around the environment.



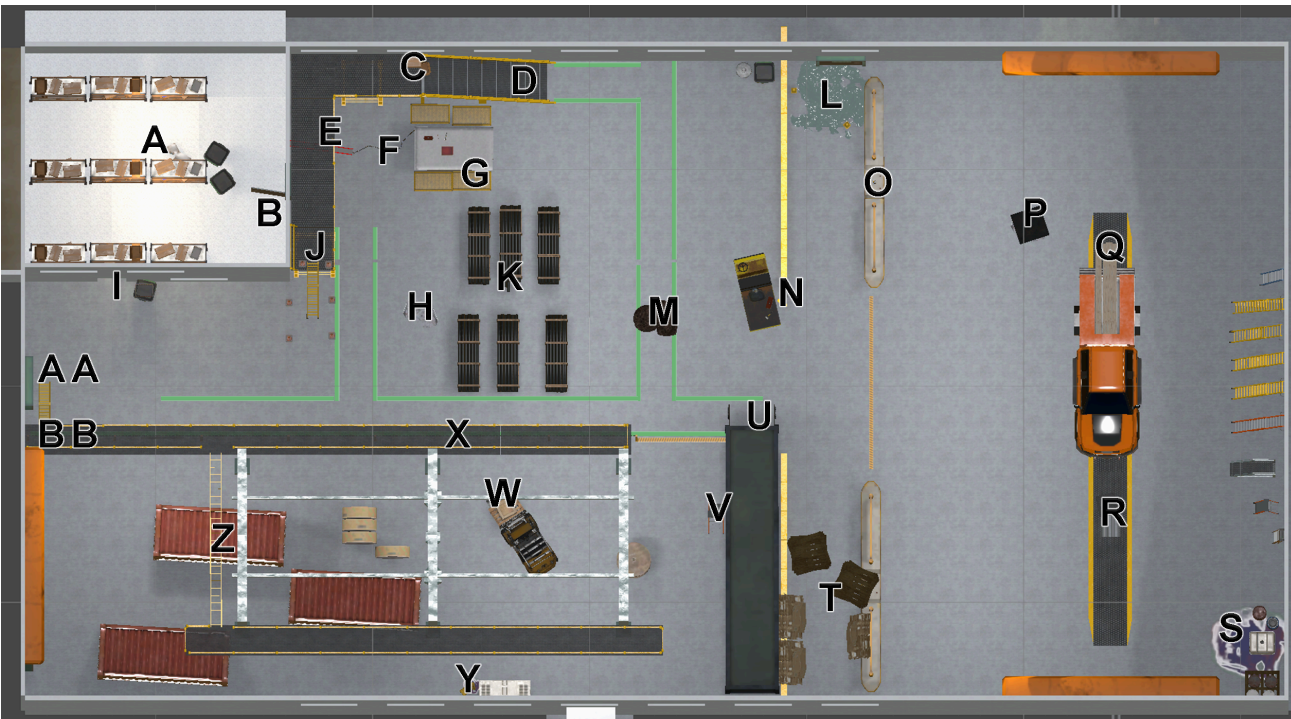
Tab: opens the main menu where you can choose to Reveal All Hazards, Reset or Quit the simulation.



Hazard Tracker: This states the type of hazards (Slips, Trips, Falls, Obstruction) and how many are left to find in the environment.

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Simulation Hazard Answer Key



A: Debris	H: Damaged Floor	O: Unprotected Studs/Wires	V: Damaged Step-Ladder
B: Fluid leak	I: Pallet Jack in Doorway	P: Damaged Floor Cover	W: Fork Lift Trip Hazard
C: Boxes on Steps	J: Unmarked Fall Hazard	Q: Boards sticking out	X: Damaged Catwalk
D: Damaged Steps	K: Pipe Trip Hazard	R: Open Floor Pit	Y: Diesel Fuel Spill
E: Open Catwalk Rail	L: Puddle by Door	S: Leak by Tote/Barrels	Z: Ladder Bridge
F: Unguarded Cable	M: Chains in Walkway	T: Obstructed Path/Doorway	AA: Ladder in Doorway
G: Damaged Floor Mat	N: Exposed Rebar	U: Trailer Doors in Pathway	BB: Ladder too Short

Conclusion:

As an instructor, use this simulation activity to prompt discussion about why hazards are dangerous and how they should be corrected using appropriate controls. Conclude by reinforcing that workplace safety depends on consistent awareness and action, encouraging learners to apply these skills to prevent incidents in their own work environments.