

Roofing Fall Hazards (Residential)

Revised December 2025

Slips and falls account for about 30 percent of injuries to roofers and are likely to cause the most serious injuries. We are addressing the hazards associated with roofing in residential construction. *Red italics indicate where you must customize the content of this tailgate meeting for your job site's equipment and conditions. Discuss the following, as applicable to your job site.*

Fall protection for roof slopes 0:12 through 7:12 at 6 feet

Discuss how one or a combination of the following will be implemented at this job site:

- Personal Fall Protection. *Discuss the type of system that will be used (arrest, restraint, and/or positioning) and how suitable anchor points will be established.*
- Scaffold Platforms. *Discuss how the platforms will be properly installed, maintained, and fully planked near the eave level.*
- Guardrails. *Discuss how they will be properly erected, secured, and maintained.*
- Safety nets. *Discuss where and how they will be properly installed.*
- Fall protection plan with safety monitors and controlled access zones (CAZ). *If used, discuss:*
 - *Who the qualified person and competent person are for this site's fall protection plan.*
 - *Which employees are designated to work in the CAZs.*
 - *The measures that will be taken to reduce or eliminate the fall hazard for workers who cannot be provided conventional fall protection systems.*
 - *The locations (CAZs) where the fall protection plan will be used, why conventional fall protection cannot be used there, and what will be used to delineate the CAZ (control line or other means).*
 - *Whether a safety monitoring system will be used, in which locations, why, how, and who is the safety monitor.*

Fall protection for roof slopes > 7:12 regardless of height

Discuss how the following will be implemented at this job site:

- Personal Fall Protection. *Discuss the type of system that will be used (arrest, restraint, and/or positioning) and how suitable anchor points will be established.*
- Scaffold Platforms. *Discuss how the platforms will be properly maintained and fully planked near the eave level.*
- Guardrails. *Discuss how they will be properly erected, secured, and maintained.*
- Safety nets. *Discuss where and how they will be properly installed.*
- Fall protection plan with safety monitors and controlled access zones (CAZ). *If used, discuss:*
 - *Who the qualified person and competent person are for this site's fall protection plan.*
 - *Which employees are designated to work in the CAZs.*
 - *The measures that will be taken to reduce or eliminate the fall hazard for workers who cannot be provided conventional fall protection systems.*
 - *The locations (CAZs) where the fall protection plan will be used, why conventional fall protection cannot be used there, and what will be used to delineate the CAZ (control line or other means).*
 - *Whether a safety monitoring system will be used, in which locations, why, how, and who is the safety monitor.*

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Discussion Questions

- What are the slopes and heights of the roofs you will be working on?
- What is the required fall protection on this job and what role do you play in implementing it?
- What should you be looking for that might indicate a problem with the fall protection system and whom do you contact if you think there is a problem?
- What else can be done at this worksite to make your work safer?

Disclaimer

Refer to section **1731**, as well as **1723 through 1729** of title 8 of the California Code of Regulations for details on all of the specific requirements and particular exceptions to those requirements for roofing hazards. This tailgate toolbox topic summarizes section **1731**. Refer to the Tailgate/Toolbox Topic Roofing Fall Hazards (Excluding Residential) and section **1730** for details if your scope of roofing work includes non-residential production.

This toolbox topic is intended as an overview and does not, by itself, qualify as the training required by sections 1509, 1510, 1731 and 3203. Employees must be trained to ensure awareness of the specific fall hazards associated with roofing work, including:

- Work on or near gable ends.
- Slipping hazards.
- Roof holes and openings.
- Skylights.
- Work on ladders and scaffolds.
- Access to the roof.
- Placement and location of materials on the roof.
- Impalement hazards.
- Care and use of fall protection systems.

The information provided is not meant to be either a substitute for or legal interpretation of the occupational safety and health regulations. Readers should refer directly to title 8 of the California Code of Regulations for detailed information regarding the regulation's scope, specifications, exceptions and other requirements that may be applicable to their operations.

Customize this toolbox safety meeting and cover the issues that pertain to the specific types of equipment and procedures at your jobsite.

Make sure you document this training and have those records readily available.

Resources

- Cal/OSHA **Pocket Guide for the Construction Industry**
- Cal/OSHA **Construction Safety Orders**
 - Section **1509**
 - Section **1510**
 - Personal Fall Protection **1670**
 - Sections **1723-1731**
 - Catch Platforms Section **1724(c)**
 - Scaffold Platforms Section **1724(d)**
 - Eave Barriers Section **1724(e)**
 - Roof Jack Systems Section **1724(a)**
 - Standard Railings and Toeboards **Article 16**
- Cal/OSHA **Publications**
 - **Tailgate Topics**



This document is available with active links at www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications

For assistance regarding this subject matter, employers may contact

Cal/OSHA Consultation Services at 1-800-963-9424 or InfoCons@dir.ca.gov

www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/consultation.html

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Date: _____ **Person conducting the meeting:** _____

Name: (Print)

Signature

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