



## What to Do to Prevent Accidents for Objects at Height

In 2015, 519 fatalities resulted from being struck by an object or equipment. Falling objects resulted in 48% (247) of these deaths.

Are you taking proper precautions to ensure safety from dropped object risks?

Here are 8 steps to starting a Dropped Object Prevention Plan in your workplace:

1. **Call to Action.** Don't react, be proactive. Don't wait for that near-miss or "aha" moment.
2. **Identity the Risk and Define Scope.** Record the Who, What, Where, and When, as well as the risks.
3. **Observation Site Assessment.** Monitor what is going on, such as elements, poor housekeeping, hazard evaluations, site risks like tool transportation, and all height level activities.
4. **Training.** Have an initial Objects at Height training and establish a leader or champion. It could be a tool crib employee or manager; designate the personnel's role and responsibility.
5. **Controlled Implementation.** Use trained people in a pilot area. Revisit hazard assessment and concentrate on controls. Use the three T's trapping (keeping objects secured), tethering (lanyard any objects, many tools), and topping (cover any open tool boxes or bags that may be at height or changing levels).
6. **Policy Creation.** Based on the pilot study, now devise a policy for all to follow.
7. **Launch.** Train all employees and install all solutions necessary.

8. **Review and Expand.** Assure effectiveness, consider other areas of concern, expand on other tools, and constantly assess and improve.

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