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Health & Safety Guide

Masonry, Tile, Terrazzo, and Allied Trades

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Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers

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This guide provides an introduction to the most common health and safety hazards to workers and small employers in the masonry, tile, terrazzo, and allied trades. It does not cover in detail all of the aspects of the work. For more sources information, refer to the Contact Information section.

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Labour Management NETWORK

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Common Hazards

Some of the most common hazards faced by workers in masonry, tile, terrazzo, and allied trades are:

- Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
- Struck-by object injuries
- Falls from height
- Health hazards.

Newly hired workers—whether they're young or old, male or female, experienced or novices—are more likely to get injured within their first 30 days on the job. A worker coming to any project for the first time should be considered a new worker and given proper training and orientation.

Everyone—from employers to workers—is responsible for preventing workplace injury and illness.

Musculoskeletal Disorders

MSDs are the leading cause of injury for masonry and allied trades workers.

Vibration

Prolonged hand-arm vibration from power tools such as concrete saws and chipping guns can damage the hands, arteries, and nerves and can lead to hand-arm vibration or carpal tunnel syndrome.

Forceful exertion

Lifting and carrying heavy bricks and stones or bags of cement and mortar mix can cause pain in the lower back and knees. The greater the forceful exertion, the greater the risk of tissue damage. Forceful exertion when working with hand tools (e.g., lifting heavy, wet concrete with a trowel) can cause hand, wrist, and elbow injuries.

Awkward positions

Working in awkward positions (i.e., bending, kneeling, squatting, or working overhead) can cause the ligaments and muscles to work harder. As muscles get tired, it becomes more difficult to move or hold joints steady, increasing the risk of injury. Eventually, ligaments and muscles lose the ability to protect the joints.

Prolonged kneeling when laying bricks, tiles, stones, etc. and grouting puts extra stress on the knees and can lead to problems such as osteoarthritis. Working overhead or in a cramped space can also force your body into awkward positions.

Repetitive motions

Repetitive hand and wrist motions from activities such as hand-troweling can cause tendinitis in the hand, wrist, or elbow, or carpal tunnel syndrome. Constantly bending forward and lifting heavy bricks and stones puts extra stress on the back and shoulders.

Struck-by Object Injuries

A common hazard on construction projects is being struck by falling or flying objects, such as tools or debris, or being caught in/crushed by equipment or materials. Masonry workers may face the following struck-by hazards.

- When cutting or grinding using power tools, particles can fly off and hit workers.
- Power saws can kick back, striking the operator.
- Tools or material can fall off a scaffold, hitting workers below.
- Power tools or machinery may not have proper guarding.
- Mixers and other machinery have moving parts and pinch points.
- Loads that are not properly secured can fall during the lift.

Falls from Height

Most fall injuries occur because fall protection is either missing or not used properly. The best solution is to prevent a worker from falling by:

- Putting up guardrails
- Covering floor and roof openings
- Using a travel restraint system
- Using scaffolding that is fully planked.

If fall prevention is not possible, use a fall protection system that will reduce the severity of injury from a fall by preventing the worker from hitting the ground or objects below.

Health Hazards

Health hazards can be caused by exposure to:

- Crystalline silica particles in dust from cutting or grinding
- Dangerous chemicals such as lead or hexavalent chromium from working with cement, mortar, grout, terrazzo, paint, etc.
- Carbon monoxide and noise from tools, vehicles, and equipment
- Heat from working outside
- Refractory materials
- Other activities associated with industrial plant operations.

Lead

Exposure to lead in mortar and paint can cause serious damage to many systems in the body, leading to:

- Anemia
- Nerve damage
- Abdominal, neurological, or reproductive problems.

Silica

Silica can be inhaled into the lungs and cause many diseases.

- Silicosis—an inflammation and scarring of the lungs that makes it difficult to breathe and is often fatal
- Scleroderma—an autoimmune disease that causes hardening of the skin and connective tissues
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD)—a combination of chronic bronchitis and emphysema that is often fatal
- Lung cancer.

Did you know?

- As of July 1, 2016, Control of Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents (Regulation 833) applies to Ontario construction projects. This regulation specifies:
- Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) for more than 700 chemicals
- Requirements for employers to implement controls to protect workers
- Limitations on the use of PPE.

Hexavalent chromium

Hexavalent chromium in cement, mortar, grout, terrazzo, etc., can cause mild to severe skin or respiratory allergic reactions. Once your body becomes sensitized, even the smallest amount of exposure can cause a strong allergic reaction.

Skin and respiratory allergy symptoms include:

- Dermatitis
- Skin irritation and swelling
- Itchy rash and skin sores
- Asthma—lung inflammation causing wheezing and shortness of breath
- Runny or congested nose or nosebleeds
- Sneezing, coughing, or throat irritation
- Red, itchy, or watering eyes.

Hexavalent chromium is found in cement, mortar, and grout

Carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colourless, odourless, and poisonous gas that is produced by the incomplete burning of fuels. Workers who use gasoline-powered tools, vehicles, and equipment in buildings or semi-enclosed spaces are at risk of exposure.

CO can accumulate rapidly, especially in low-lying areas. Breathing in CO gas interferes with your body's ability to use oxygen. If undetected, it can lead to unconsciousness and eventually death.

Did you know?
Air testing is required when an internal combustion engine is being operated in an enclosed structure, excavation, or building. The time-weighted average limit of CO must not exceed

- 25 ppm for an 8-hour shift
- 75 ppm for any 30-minute period
- 125 ppm at any time.

(See O. Reg. 213/91, s. 47.)

Noise

Noise from power tools, vehicles, and equipment can cause noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). NIHL is the most common health hazard suffered by construction workers in Ontario.

NIHL often happens gradually, so workers may not realize that loud noise is damaging their hearing. By the time they do, it's too late—the damage is permanent and can't be reversed.

Did you know?
The 2016 Noise regulation (O. Reg. 381) requires employers to protect workers from overexposure to noise. It sets out a time-weighted average limit of 85 dBA of noise exposure over an 8-hour shift. Engineering and administrative controls to reduce noise must be considered before using hearing protective devices.

Table 1 shows noise levels produced by some common tools and equipment used by masonry workers along with the maximum exposure time without hearing protection.

Table 1: Maximum Exposure Time Without Hearing Protection

Tool or Equipment	Sound Level (dBA)	Maximum Exposure Time
Chipping Gun	110	1 min
Compressor	85 – 104	6 min
Concrete Saw	97 – 103	7.5 min
Drill	88-96	37 min
Grinder	92-97	30 min
Jackhammer	100 – 115	< 1 min
Pneumatic Chisel	93	1 hr 15 min

NOTE: If you need to yell to be heard by someone standing 2 ft away, the noise probably exceeds 85 dBA and precautions should be taken.

The maximum exposure time for chipping guns is 1 minute (see Table 1)

Heat stress

Heat-related illnesses can occur when working outdoors or indoors in hot weather or working near hot processes. If you become dehydrated, your body cannot cool itself. Heat stress occurs when your body cannot keep blood flowing to both vital organs and the skin for cooling.

- Wear light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing that allows sweat to evaporate.
- Drink one cup (8 oz) of cool water every half hour, even if you're not thirsty.
- Avoid alcohol or caffeinated drinks that will make you go to the bathroom.
- Don't eat hot, heavy food. It will raise your body temperature.

For more info, refer to the Heat Stress chapter in IHSA's *Construction Health and Safety Manual* (M029).

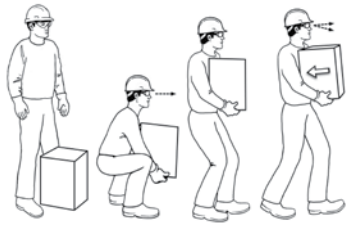
Preventing Hazards

Manual Materials Handling

Plan ahead to minimize manual material-handling tasks and implement controls to avoid overexertion, repetitive motions, and awkward positions.

- Use material-handling equipment such as carts, motorized wheelbarrows, and silo mixers to reduce the exertion caused by lifting and carrying.
- Ensure workers are trained how to use the material-handling equipment.
- Push equipment instead of pulling it. Pulling causes more bone-on-bone compression in the lower back.
- Split large loads into smaller ones. Lifting smaller weights put less stress on the back than larger weights, even if you have to make more trips.
- Store heavy materials close to the work location to reduce the amount of travel.
- Get help from a co-worker if a load is too heavy or awkward to carry alone.
- Rotate between different tasks (e.g., hand troweling and mortar mixing) throughout the day to prevent repetitive stress.
- Stretch or warm up before lifting.

- Use proper lifting techniques:
  1. Face in the direction of the object.
  2. Take a balanced stance with feet about shoulder-width apart.
  3. Squat down and get as close to the object as you can.
  4. Lift gradually, using your legs and not your back.
  5. Once you're standing, change direction by pointing your feet in the direction you want to travel. Avoid twisting at the waist.



Use proper lifting techniques

Avoid Working on the Floor

Constantly working on the floor can cause injuries to the back, hips, and knees because workers usually have to kneel and bend forward.

- If working on the floor, use high-quality kneepads to prevent knee injuries. (Note: kneepads distribute force over a larger

area of the knee's surface, but don't reduce force on the knee joint.)

- Work in a comfortable position whenever possible. To relieve muscle tension and improve circulation, change your body position, alternate tasks, and stretch throughout the day.
- Position work between knee level and shoulder level or raise the work surface by using a workbench or by stacking pallets.
- Use kneepads with rollers to move around more easily.
- Use a work stool or knee creeper when working low to the ground. A knee creeper can support the upper body, reduce contact stress on the knees, and make it easier to move around.

Raise the work surface by using a workbench

Good Hygiene Practices

Unsanitary conditions in and around toilets and clean-up facilities on a jobsite can expose workers to infectious diseases. Having a well-maintained hand-washing facility also keeps masonry workers safe from some of the toxic dusts and chemicals they often encounter.

- Wash your hands:
  - after using the toilet
  - after contact with chemical agents
  - before eating, drinking, or smoking
  - before leaving work.
- Use soap and water (not hand sanitizer) to remove dirt and chemicals from your skin.
- Change out of your work clothes and store clothes in a separate location before entering your house.
- Wash your work clothes separately from those of your family.

Good Housekeeping Practices

Clean up debris and scrap material to prevent slips, trips, and falls.

- Keep pathways clear for material-handling equipment to get around.
- Keep equipment and the area around it clear of scrap and waste.
- Pile, stack, or store materials properly to prevent tipping or collapsing.
- Post warning signs in hazardous areas.

Tools and Equipment

The proper selection, use, and maintenance of tools and equipment can prevent injuries and save lives.

- Use tools and equipment according to manufacturers' instructions.
- Inspect tools and equipment regularly. Remove or tag any tools and equipment that are damaged.
- Select the right tool for the job. Power tools will require less force than hand tools but may have other risks (kickback, vibration, etc.).
- Hand tools should have:
  - A comfortable handle that provides a good grip
  - A grip that is the correct size and is designed to be used by either hand
  - A handle that lets you keep your wrist straight or in a neutral position when operating it.
- Use tools that have adjustable lengths to fit workers with different heights.
- Keep cutting tools sharp to reduce the force needed to operate them.
- Leave safety devices in place and intact. Never remove or modify a guard.
- Never leave an unattended power tool running and never set it down before it has fully stopped.
- Choose tools that have dust collectors.
- Select tools that allow wet cutting. Water helps control dust, which reduces exposure to silica or other hazardous substances.

- Make sure that gas-powered engines and heaters are vented outside.
- Use electric-powered rather than gas-powered tools and equipment in restricted or confined spaces and poorly ventilated areas.
- Use anti-vibration gloves with impact resistance and finger protection when using powered hand tools.
- Choose lightweight power tools with low vibration, kickback, and torque.

Use hand tools with a handle that lets you keep your wrist straight

Choose lightweight power tools with low vibration, kickback, and torque

Use water when cutting to control dust

Scaffolds

Scaffolds must be provided where work cannot be done on or from the ground, a building, or other permanent structure without hazard to the workers. Refer to sections 125 to 136 of the construction regulation (213/91) for specific requirements.

Every scaffold must be able to support two times the maximum force that may be applied to it. Masonry scaffolds hold large, heavy pallets of bricks or concrete blocks. Foundations are essential, so make sure the base is secured, levelled, and adjusted. Replace mud and soft soils with compacted gravel or crushed stone.

Overloading can cause planks to break or deteriorate. Use planks made of construction grade or number 1 grade spruce lumber and inspect them regularly. When loading heavy material such as pallets of bricks or concrete blocks on the scaffold, double-plank the decks or place the material over the supports.

Scaffolds over 15 m (50 ft) high (10 m high if constructed of a tube and clamp system) must be designed by a professional engineer (P.Eng.). The scaffold must be inspected before use by a P.Eng. or competent worker.

A competent worker (i.e., a worker who is qualified because of knowledge, training, and experience to perform the work) must also supervise the erection, alteration, and dismantling of any scaffolds. Scaffolds should be inspected, maintained, and used according to the manufacturer's instructions or its engineering and design requirements.

The regulations require guardrails on scaffolds or other work platforms if a worker is exposed to a fall of 2.4 m (8 ft) or more (O. Reg. 213/91, s. 26.3(1)). However, due to the large number of fall-related injuries and fatalities related to working on scaffolds, IHSA recommends installing guardrails on all scaffold platforms over 1.5 m (5 ft) high and at each working level as the scaffold is being erected.

If guardrails have to be removed to receive material, workers must be protected by another means of fall protection. Replace the guardrail as soon as possible.

Falls often happen when workers are getting on or off the ladder at the platform. Keep both hands free to hold the guardrail or ladder. Maintain 3-point contact at all times.

Do not carry tools or materials when climbing ladders. Wear a tool belt and use a rope to lift material.

Scaffolds loaded with heavy materials and scaffolds that span more than 2.1 m (7 ft) should be at least double-planked. Planks that are uncleated or unsecured may slide off. Scaffolds that exceed the 3-to-1 rule of height to least lateral dimension must be tied in to a building or structure.

Maintain 3-point contact on a ladder to prevent falls

If there is a danger of falling debris, cordon off the scaffold area to prevent workers from entering it and put up Danger—Work Overhead signs to prevent struck-bys.

*Put up **Danger—Work Overhead** signs to prevent struck-by injuries*

Add a work platform 1 m (40 in) below the level where the bricks or concrete blocks are stored by using side brackets attached to the inside of the frame. The platform must be fully planked (usually two planks side-by-side). This platform allows workers to access the material at a more ergonomically correct height. Mast-climbing work platforms have this lower level, which is why they are becoming more common in masonry work.

On a mast-climbing work platform, workers can stand on the lower level to prevent MSDs

Fall Prevention

A means of fall protection must be used wherever workers may be exposed to the hazard of falling:

- more than 3 metres (10 feet)
- more than 1.2 metres (4 feet) if the work area is used as a path for a wheelbarrow or similar equipment
- into operating machinery
- into water or another liquid
- into a hazardous substance or object
- through an opening in a work surface.

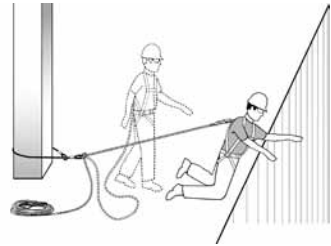
Fall protection systems are designed to prevent or minimize the possibility of a worker falling. Before using fall protection, workers in Ontario must receive approved working at heights (WAH) training from an approved training provider. The deadline for completing WAH training is April 1, 2017. This must be followed by site-specific training at the jobsite.

Adequate fall protection systems should be in place at all construction sites. The system must be installed, inspected, and maintained in accordance with the professional engineer's design and every component must meet the requirements of provincial legislation and national standards.

The preferred method of fall prevention is to install guardrails. Guardrails are used if a worker has access to the perimeter or open side of a work surface and is exposed to a fall of 2.4 m

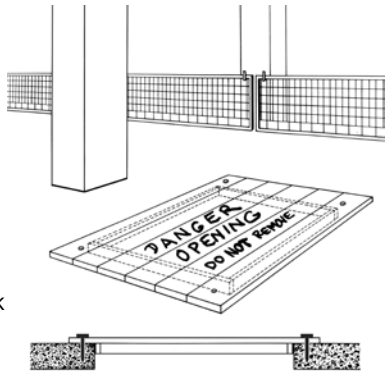
(8 ft) or more. See the Construction Projects regulation for exact specifications (213/91, s. 26.3).

If using guardrails is not reasonably possible, the second-best method is to use a travel restraint system. It allows a worker to travel just far enough to reach the edge but not far enough to fall over.



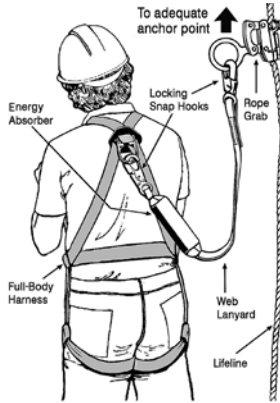
Travel restraint prevents a worker from falling over the edge

Fall prevention also involves putting covers over floor and roof openings and providing proper access equipment (e.g., ladders, temporary stairs) and work platforms (e.g., scaffolds).



Cover floor and roof openings

Components of a fall protection system



Methods of fall protection include fall restricting or fall arrest systems. They do not prevent a fall, but when properly installed, they can reduce the severity of injury from a fall by preventing a falling worker from hitting the ground or any object or level below the work.

Fall protection equipment generally consists of the following:

1. A CSA-approved full-body harness connected to a lanyard
2. A CSA-approved lanyard connected to a rope grab
3. A CSA-approved rope grab connected to a lifeline
4. A CSA-approved lifeline connected to an anchor point.

If workers are required to use a fall restricting or fall arrest system, the employer must develop a Fall Arrest Rescue Plan. A competent worker must inspect fall arrest equipment for damage, wear, and obvious defects before each use. Any worker required to use fall arrest must be trained in its safe use and proper maintenance.

Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is designed to protect workers from physical dangers and/or health hazards. If they are in good condition, equipment such as hard hats, safety glasses, safety boots, and gloves can reduce the severity of an injury.

Hearing and respiratory protection prevent illnesses and damage to the worker's health. To determine the appropriate type of PPE, always refer to the safety data sheet (SDS) when working with a hazardous product.

Eye protection

To protect your eyes from flying particles and the chemicals used in cleaning masonry walls, wear eye protection that meets the requirements of the CSA Standard (Z94.3). Class 1 safety glasses (i.e., spectacles) have side shields that provide extra protection from flying objects. In dusty conditions, however, Class 2 goggles are preferred. A full faceshield is recommended when there is danger to the face (e.g., operating a masonry saw).

Class 1 Safety Glasses

Class 2 Goggles

Foot protection

Most foot injuries in construction are ankle injuries. Boots should be laced to the top to provide maximum support and protection against ankle injuries and to keep material such as mortar and concrete from falling into the boots.

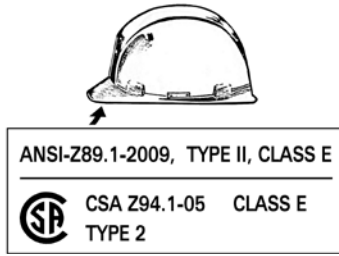
Wear properly fitted CSA Grade 1 workboots. They can be identified by

- a green triangular patch containing the CSA logo on the outside of the boot
- a green label indicating Grade 1 protection on the inside of the boot.

A white label with the Greek letter omega in orange means that the boot protects against electric shock under dry conditions.

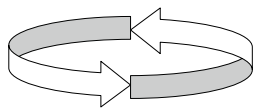
Head protection

Hard hats are mandatory for all construction workers on the job in Ontario. They protect against head injuries caused by impact with a fixed object or being struck by flying or falling objects.



Masonry, tile, terrazzo, and allied trades workers should wear a Class E hard hat. It can withstand an electrical contact equal to 20,000 volts phase-to-ground. The Type and Class of hard hat can be found on the CSA or ANSI label or stamped into the shell of the hard hat under the brim.

Wear your hard hat facing forward. If it needs to be worn backwards because of the job, task, or work environment (e.g., wearing a face shield), make sure it has a reverse orientation mark.

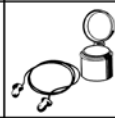


Reverse Orientation Mark

Hearing protection

Depending on the noise level and duration of exposure, a temporary or permanent hearing loss may occur when working with noisy equipment such as masonry saws and grinders.

Earplugs and earmuffs are the most common type of PPE used to control noise exposure at the worker. However, it is preferable to eliminate or control noise at the source or along the path (e.g., use low-noise tools and equipment). Choose a type of hearing protection device (HPD) that you can wear comfortably for long periods of time and learn how to select, use, care for, and fit your HPD.

Foam Earplugs	Premoulded Earplugs	Earmuffs	Formable Earplugs	Custom-moulded Earplugs	Semi-insert Earplugs
					

Did you know?
The 2016 Noise regulation (O. Reg. 381) requires employers to provide adequate training and instruction on the HPDs workers will be using on site.

Respiratory protection

Respirators can lower the risk of health hazards caused by breathing in harmful dust, especially when mixing mortar. To select the proper respirator for the job, refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the hazardous material. IHSA recommends using only NIOSH-approved equipment.

Anyone who uses a respirator must:

- Have a fit test performed before the first use.
- Be clean-shaven.
- Be trained and instructed on the selection, care, and use of the respirator.

Perform a seal check every time you put on a respirator

Skin protection

Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and waterproof gloves and kneepads to protect the skin from wet cement, grout, etc. Wear safety gloves to protect your hands from cuts and other hazards. Wearing impermeable gloves (e.g., nitrile gloves) under work gloves can protect the skin from contact with cement or mortar.

Cover your skin to prevent contact with wet cement

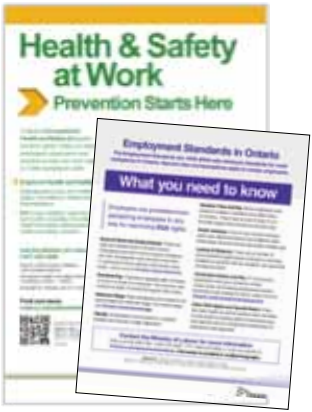
Don't let your clothing or gloves become saturated with wet cement. Change your clothes and wash your skin with soap and clean water immediately. Start each day in clothing that is free from hardened cement and shower at the end of each workday.

To protect against exposure to UV radiation, wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants to cover most of your skin. Protect the rest of your skin with sunscreen. Reapply it regularly, especially if you sweat heavily. Changing from wet clothing into dry clothing will also provide more protection from the sun's rays.

Rights and Responsibilities

Each workplace party has certain responsibilities that contribute to a safe and healthy workplace. The *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSA) sets out the specific responsibilities for each workplace party. Additional responsibilities can be found in the Construction Projects Regulation (213/91).

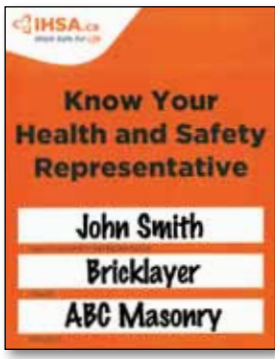
Everyone must know and understand their rights and responsibilities under Ontario law. Post a copy of the MOL's *Health and Safety at Work: Prevention Starts Here* poster. and the *Employment Standards in Ontario* poster. They are available for download on the MOL website in many languages.



Employer Responsibilities

- **Post a copy of the green book** (i.e., OHSA and regulations) in the workplace so that it's accessible to all workers.
- **Make sure everyone follows the law** and the workplace health and safety policies and procedures.
- **Do everything reasonable** in the circumstances to protect workers from a work-related injury or illness.
- **Provide information, instruction, and supervision to workers** about workplace hazards and how to work safely. Mandatory training includes WHMIS, Working at Heights, and Health and Safety Awareness Training for Workers and Supervisors.
- **Create policies and procedures** to ensure workplace health and safety.
- **Make sure workers wear and use** the proper protective equipment.
- **Do not take action** against workers for following the law and raising health and safety concerns.

- **Give safety talks** at the jobsite to promote awareness of hazards and reduce injuries in the workplace.
- **Make sure supervisors know** what is required to protect the health and safety of workers.
- **Provide WSIB coverage** to workers if required. Coverage is compulsory for most construction companies, independent operators, and sole proprietors. Exemptions include truck drivers and home renovators.
- **Appoint the Health and Safety Representative** who has been selected by the workers. Note: This only applies on projects where a Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) is not required.
- **Establish a JHSC** if a project has 20 or more workers and will last more than three months.



Worker Responsibilities

- **Follow the law** and workplace health and safety policies and procedures.
- **Wear and use protective equipment** provided by the employer.
- **Work and act** in a way that won't hurt themselves or anyone else.
- **Report any hazards** or injuries to the supervisor.
- **Do not remove any protective device** or make it ineffective.
- **Do not use or operate any equipment** in a way that would endanger anyone.
- **Do not engage in any pranks** or rough and boisterous conduct.

Worker Rights

Workers in Ontario have three basic rights.

1. **The right to know** what hazards are in the workplace (The employer has a duty to inform the Health and Safety Representative or JHSC.)
2. **The right to participate** in keeping the workplace healthy and safe by becoming a Health and Safety Rep or joining a JHSC
3. **The right to refuse** unsafe work that the worker believes endangers the health or safety of themselves or others. (See OHSA, s. 43(3).)

Workers who exercise these rights—or who act in compliance with any other legislation under the OHSA or regulations—are protected against reprisals by their employer. Reprisals include dismissal, discipline, suspension, penalties, intimidation, or coercion. (See OHSA, s.50.)

Did you know?
The new JHSC Certification Training Standard requires certified members to take a JHSC training program that has been approved by the Chief Prevention Officer (CPO).

Reporting an Injury

Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) provides compensation and return-to-work support for injured workers. No matter how small an injury appears, it should be reported to the employer. If an injury is not immediately reported, it may become difficult to prove that the injury was work-related.

If your experience an injury at the workplace, follow the steps below.

1. Get Treatment.

- Go to the nearest first aid station immediately.
- Keep an accurate record of the treatment.
- If the injury is serious, go the nearest hospital.

2. Report the Incident.

- Notify the employer or supervisor immediately. If the injury requires medical attention, time off work, or lost wages, the employer must inform the WSIB within three days.
- Refer to the WSIB's *In Case of Injury* poster. It must be posted on all jobsites.

3. File a Claim.

If an injury requires medical treatment, time off work, lost wages, or modified duties:

- The worker should file a **Worker's Report of Injury/Disease** (WSIB Form 6).
- The employer must file a **Employer's Report of Injury/Disease** (WSIB Form 7).
- The medical professional who is treating the worker must submit a **Health Professional's Report** (WSIB Form 8).

Contact Information

Ontario's occupational health and safety system is composed of the Ministry of Labour (MOL), the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), and six health and safety associations. Its mandate is to serve all workers and employers in every workplace under provincial jurisdiction.

Employers and workers are encouraged to become familiar with each of the associations that can provide health and safety assistance to their workplace.

Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA)

IHSA.ca
Work Safe for Life

IHSA is a leading creator and provider of health and safety courses, materials, and information for workplaces involving high-risk activities in the electrical, construction, and transportation sectors.

ihsa.ca **1-800-263-5024**

Ontario

Ministry of Labour (MOL)
MOL's mission is to advance safe, fair, and harmonious workplace practices that are essential to the social and economic well-being of the people of Ontario.
labour.gov.on.ca **1-877-202-0008**

1989 2014 25 YEARS
Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers

Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW)
OHCOW's mission is to protect all workers and their communities from occupational diseases, injuries, and illnesses, and to support their capacity to address occupational hazards, and to promote the social, mental, and physical well-being of workers and their families.
ohcow.on.ca **1-877-817-0336**

wsib cspaat ONTARIO

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB)
The WSIB is an independent trust agency that administers compensation and no-fault insurance for Ontario workplaces. They are committed to delivering fast, accessible service and fair benefits at a fair price.
wsib.on.ca **1-800-387-0750**

Notes

How IHSA Can Help

IHSA has products and free resources that can help workers in masonry, tile, terrazzo, and allied trades work safe.

- Construction Health and Safety Manual (MO29)
- MSD Hazards and Controls: Masonry (W301)
- MSD Hazards and Controls: Tile and Terrazzo (W318)
- Occupational Health Risks: Masonry and Allied Trades (W104)
- Work Smarter Not Harder Poster: Prevent MSDs in the Terrazzo and Tile Trade (W320)

Make safety work for you

IHSA is your first step

IHSA is a leader in health and safety education. Through skills-based training, auditing, and evaluation, we provide safety solutions to those who perform high-risk activities such as working at heights, working with energized high-voltage power systems, driving motor vehicles, transporting dangerous goods, working on suspended access equipment, and utility line clearing.

Find out what we can do for you.

400–5110 Creekbank Road
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Fax: 905-625-8998

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