

STAY SAFE WITH SOCIETY



SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS

A national study of workplace injuries found slips and falls on the same level were the second leading cause of employee injury. The study also found that slip/falls on a level surface have increased 41 percent in the last 10 years!

Use the following checklist to control your risk of slips/trips/falls. Begin by identifying where slip/falls may occur: entrances, exits, parking lots, etc. Target any location where someone slipped/tripped in the past 12 months. If you can't answer yes to any of the below items, you should closely examine the issue as a potential item for action to correct a deficiency.

- Do you use walk-off mats to control the water brought indoors by rain or snow?
- Do the walk-off mats cover the full width of entrances/exits?
- Are walk-off mats long enough (10-12 strides) to capture all tracked in water?
- Do you use a mat service to regularly change out and clean the walk-off mats?
- Do all rugs and mats lay flat without curled up edges or frayed seams?
- In winter, are entrances regularly checked for ice/snow build-up and have salt/sand at all entrances for spot treating?
- Are produce aisles checked for possible spills, especially ice/water, several times per day?
- Are restroom floors periodically checked for water on the floor?
- Do you have and require the use of wet floor signs or cones?
- Are wet floor signs only used when the floor is actually wet? (If wet floor signs are always out, people will stop noticing them and they will lose their effectiveness.)
- Are floor surfaces, including carpet, tile, and vinyl, periodically checked and cleaned at least once each day?
- Are buckets and mops readily available for spot cleaning hard surface floors?
- Do you use floor cleaning products that are compatible with your floor surface and the contaminants in your business?
- Do all flights of steps greater than three steps have a handrail?
- Are all steps well lit?
- Are all steps and handrails tight with no movement possible?



SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS (PAGE 2)

- ✓ Do you highlight, with a contrasting color, any sidewalk deviations greater than 3/4 inches, or single steps up or down?
- ✓ Do you have any ramps and, if so, are they treated with a non-skid surface?
- ✓ Are entranceways and exits free of any tripping hazards?
- ✓ Do you have repairs scheduled for any pavement sections where you answered "YES" in the previous question?
- ✓ Do downspouts from your roof discharge water onto sidewalks or pedestrian walkways? (If they do, these areas must be checked for ice in winter or the discharge redirected.)
- ✓ Are your sidewalks and parking lot adequately lit?
- ✓ If you have video surveillance of your property and a slip/fall is reported, do you immediately recover and save the video for the area in question?
- ✓ Do you have a still/digital camera to take pictures of the area where the incident occurred?
- ✓ Do you have liability claim forms readily available?
- ✓ Does the store owner contact injured parties to express concern for their health, but not to admit liability?

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