

The experts say at least 80% of industrial accidents are caused by unsafe acts on the part of employees—and not by unsafe conditions. Although employers are required by law to provide a safe and healthful workplace, it is up to you to be aware of your work environment and follow safe work practices. Doing so will reduce accidents, increase productivity, and save costs.



Here are some important tips:

Causes of accidents – it's important to discuss why accidents happen so we know how to prevent them in the future:

- ▶ People not thinking about what they are doing
- ▶ People not following instructions
- ▶ People not following training they've been given
- ▶ Unsafe manual handling, loading, stacking and storing
- ▶ Overloading of working places, scaffolding, and hoists etc.
- ▶ Incorrect use of plant and machinery
- ▶ Use of faulty equipment with improvised repairs
- ▶ Illegal removal of guards and barriers
- ▶ Failure to use protective safety equipment
- ▶ Ignoring safety signals, signs, and warning devices

The Cost of Accidents to You:

- ▶ Pain, suffering, and continuing disability
- ▶ Loss of earnings and extra expense due to disability
- ▶ Incapacity for the job and your leisure activities
- ▶ Unable to support family and possible family breakup

Accident Prevention Tips:

- ▶ Don't remove guards from machines
- ▶ Don't handle substances without knowing the hazards
- ▶ Don't use any machines if not trained—follow instructions
- ▶ Always comply with safe working practices
- ▶ Wear and use PPE correctly, don't abuse it
- ▶ Don't direct compressed air at yourself or others, it kills
- ▶ Never mess around while working
- ▶ Never use defective equipment or machinery
- ▶ Keep the workplace clean
- ▶ Wash and dry hands to remove substances from skin
- ▶ Report unsafe conditions to your supervisor
- ▶ Use correct tools and equipment for the job
- ▶ Obey all safety rules and signs
- ▶ Don't leave tools lying about where they can cause injury to others