



SAFETY WALKAROUND CHECKLIST GUARDRAILS

2001

Date Prepared: _____

By: _____

Project Name/No: _____

Location: _____

- **Check the box if the statement is true.**
- **Citations in brackets are from Title 8 of the California Administrative Code.**

NOTES

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

- The company has a written Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) that meets all Cal/OSHA requirements. It includes identification of hazards on the site which could cause falls, as well as regular inspections, accident investigation, and correction of hazardous conditions. [1509]

GUARDRAIL OR COVER REQUIREMENTS

- All open sides and ends have railings (or workers are protected by safety belts or nets). This is true for most scaffolds, runways, ramps, rolling scaffolds, elevated platforms, surfaces, wall openings, or other elevations 7½ feet or more above the ground, floor, or other level surface. [1621(a), 1669, 1670, 1671]
- 4" toeboards are provided and are fastened in place on all open sides and ends of railed scaffolds at locations where persons are required to work or pass under the scaffold, and at all interior floor, roof, and shaft openings. [1621(b)]
- On skeleton steel structures more than 30 feet in height, all exposed edges of temporary planked (or metal decked) floors at the periphery (and at interior openings) are protected by a wire rope (perimeter cable) or equivalent guardrail protection. Perimeter cable is at least 3/8" diameter wire rope of 13,500 pounds minimum breaking strength. It is located 42"–45" from finished floor height. After decking is complete, midrail protection is installed. [1710(e)(3)]
- On structural wood framing more than 15 feet in height, there are standard guardrails. At the leading edge, parapets at least 24" high are provided. Otherwise, workers wear harnesses with lifelines, or safety belts with lifelines. [1716.1(c)(1), 1669, 1670, 1671]

- All stairs and stairwells (also stairway landings, porches, balconies) have guardrails and toeboards. Handrails are 30"–34" above the stair tread nose. [1626]
- All holes and openings are covered, or are guarded on all sides by standard guardrails and toeboards. [1632(b)] (For additional protection for roofers, see [1730(a)])
- Covers are securely fastened. [1632(b)]
- Covers are able to withstand the weight of a 200-pound person or the weight of workers and materials actually placed on them, whichever is greater. [1632(e)]
- Covers are marked with a sign: OPENING—DO NOT REMOVE. [1632(b)]
- All ladderway openings are guarded by standard guardrails and toeboards unless there is a gate. [1632(c)]
- All wall openings have guardrails if there is a drop of more than 4 feet and the bottom of the opening is less than 3 feet above the working surface. In addition, toeboards are provided if the bottom is less than 4" above the working surface. [1632(j) and 1621(a)]
- All extension platforms outside wall openings have siderails. [1632(k)]
- All elevator shafts have standard guardrails and toeboards if they are not enclosed or do not have cages. [1633(a)]
- Periphery rails are installed as soon as falsework supporting members are in place. [1717(d)(4)]
- All wall openings have guardrails, except on the ground floor and a floor being demolished. [1735(k)]
- All cross-overs above trenches and excavations have standard guardrails. [1541(l)(1)]
- All catwalks on dredge discharge pipelines have a flat surface walkway at least 12" wide and a guardrail. [1603(a)]
- All catwalks or platforms over water more than 4' deep are at least 20" wide and have guardrails. [1603(b)]

GUARDRAIL SPECIFICATIONS

- Railings are made of “select” lumber free of damage, or of equally substantial material. [1620(a)]
- Top rail is 42" - 45" from floor. [1620(a)]
- Midrail is halfway between top and floor. [1620(a)]

- Top rails and handrails are smooth and at least 2" x 4". Midrails are at least 1" x 6". [1620(c)]
- Wooden support posts are at least 2" x 4" and spaced at intervals of 8 feet or less. [1620(b)]
- Railings are capable of withstanding a load of 13 pounds per linear foot. [1620(f)]
- Toeboards are provided on scaffolds and interior floor, roof, and shaft openings where persons work or pass underneath. They extend at least 4" above the floor. [1621(b)]
- If materials are too high for the toeboards, paneling or screening to the mid or top rail is used. [1621(c)]

TEMPORARY FLOORS

- On steel structures, tight substantial temporary floors (planked or metal decking) are installed every 2 floors. [1635(b)]
- On non-steel structures, tight substantial temporary floors (planked or concrete) are installed every floor before work begins on the walls or floor above. [1635(a)]

ACCESS

- There are permanent or temporary stairways in all structures 2 stories (24 feet) or more in height or depth. (Not required on scaffolds.) [1629(a)(3)]
- Stairways, ramps, or ladders are provided whenever there is a break in elevation of 18" or more. [1629(a)(3)]
- Walkways, stairs, and ladders are safe and not blocked. [1624, 1626, 1629, and 1675–1678]
- There is a passenger elevator for hoisting workers on any structure which is at least 60 feet high or 48 feet below ground level. [1630]