

TOOLBOX TALK #31

FALLING OBJECT SAFETY



When you think about objects falling and causing a fatality or injury to a person below, you may only consider larger materials or tools of being capable of that kind of damage. But that is not the case. Many times, injuries and fatalities are caused by a simple hand tool or small object. The severity of the injury depends on where and how the person was struck and the speed at which the object it's someone.

Some common dropped objects that have been known to cause harm include:

- Drills and bits
- Screwdrivers and screws
- Hammers and nails
- Scaffolds
- Paint cans
- Ladders
- Saws
- Personal items including drinks and cups

There is always a chance of serious injury to anyone who is struck by a falling object. Common dropped object injuries range from minor to severe:

- Broken bones
- Bruises cuts and lacerations
- Back injuries
- Neck injuries
- Sprains
- Fractures
- Permanent damage
- Concussion
- Brain injuries

While working on a construction site, it is very important that you are observant of what and who is around or above you. A lot of accidents can be avoided when responsibility and caution are put first.

If you see a tool or piece of equipment laying out that could possibly fall or be tripped over, pick it up and move it. If you see a hazard in someone's way, do what you can to speak up.