

Home Repair/Rehabilitation Safety Information

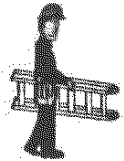


Thank you for volunteering to help other lives in safety, comfort and dignity. Your efforts today will make an **immediate** impact in the lives of the homeowners you're working with. We want you to work safely and leave the project in the same condition you entered it. Therefore, please pay attention to the following safety reminders.

SAFETY GLASSES: Please use your safety glasses anytime you are working with any material that will break into (lust, particles or drops); or frankly, at the times. These activities include cutting, sawing, sanding, demolition, painting, etc.



GLOVES: Use gloves to avoid splinters and cuts when working with wood and metal objects.



LADDERS: Be certain that your ladder has firm footing on all four legs before climbing. Check the side rails and rungs to make sure the ladder is in good condition. **NEVER** stand on the top rung of a ladder and you should always have someone hold the base of the ladder steady if you're climbing high.

SHOES: Make sure your shoes have good tread if you are working on the roof. A fall off the roof will certainly ruin your volunteer experience! Use closed-toed shoes - no sandals.

ELECTRICAL: When working around any electrical wires, make sure you've shut off the breaker to the area. Put a piece of masking tape over the breaker to help ensure nobody turns it on and warn your co-workers you've shut it off.



INJURIES: If one of your co-workers is cut, be careful not to come into contact with their blood as it could carry HIV or Hepatitis. Use clean gloves, shirts, rags or towels to apply pressure. Wash off any blood with soap and water immediately. Report any and all injuries to your Team Leader.

BE ALERT: Watch overhead for falling materials if people are working on the roof or high on ladders. If you're on the roof or a ladder, do not drop materials unless you can see it is clear to do so. Watch the ground for extension cords, tools or materials that could cause you to trip and fall.



CHEMICALS: If you're using ammonia or other cleaning chemicals, open up doors and windows to help ventilate the area. If you begin to feel dizzy or light-headed, take a break and go outside. Then, try to increase the ventilation in the area with fans. When using chemicals, use gloves and safety glasses to prevent contact with your skin and eyes.

ASBESTOS: Many of these homes are old and may have asbestos siding or flooring. Asbestos is only harmful if it is in a friable form and takes years to accumulate to a harmful level. Nonetheless, use caution when tearing off flooring or siding. Use a disposable dust mask if possible.

SAFE LIFTING: Always remember to use your legs when you lift! Remember to stretch and limber up before beginning your project. If a load is too heavy, make more than one trip or get one of your co-workers to help you. **THINK**

