



MOPPING SPILLS SAFETY TIPS



Be Prepared

- ✓ Ensure you have been trained in the use of the equipment and the hazards of the materials present
- ✓ Obtain information on the chemical nature, toxicity, biohazard of spilled material and cleaning products
- ✓ Block off the area with appropriate signs, barricades or tape
- ✓ Use microfiber mop system if appropriate (lighter weight)
- ✓ Adjust mop handle height between shoulder and chin level
- ✓ Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE):
 - Gloves resistant to chemicals present
 - Non-slip shoes/boots
 - Other PPE depending on the nature of the spilled material (e.g., toxicity/biohazard/corrosive)

Work Safe

- ✓ Hold the mop close to your body; avoid extending the mop or your arms far out and away from your body
- ✓ Switch your grip: alternate which hand is high and low on the handle
- ✓ Take regular micro-breaks
- ✓ Try to schedule alternative tasks in between long periods of mopping
- ✓ Avoid skin contact with cleaners/spilled material and rinse immediately if contact does occur
- ✓ Use floor drains to empty your mop bucket rather than lifting up to a sink

Finish Right

- ✓ Dispose of mop heads and hang them to dry
- ✓ Return signs/barricades to storage
- ✓ Clean and put away PPE
- ✓ Wash and dry hands
- ✓ Report any problems with the equipment to your supervisor
- ✓ Report any skin problems or work-related aches and pains to your supervisor



Speak up!

If you see a hazard, let a supervisor know. Everyone plays a role in your safety and health.

HOW TO USE SAFETY CHECKS FOR WORKERS

Safety checks provide information for workers on how to work safely with specific hazards. Safety Check information can be used in orientation training, tailgate talks or even in one-one coaching. Use the following tips to help you communicate this information in your workplace:

- Use language that is consistent with the workplace
- Consider the work you do and specific examples of how these hazards can result in injury or illness
- Explain how the safe work practices will help prevent injury and illness
- Wherever possible, use the actual tools, equipment, materials and PPE to demonstrate proper use
- Ask specific questions during your talk to check understanding
- Keep a record of each talk that you deliver (see the form below)
- Post a copy of the Safety Check for workers to reference



OWNERS AND SUPERVISORS

Have you taken reasonable measures to control this hazard using the hierarchy of controls?

- **Eliminate** hazards with self-propelled auto scrubbers where possible
- Provide well-engineered adjustable equipment
- **Policies and procedures**
- **Training** staff on how to recognize, assess and control slip and musculoskeletal hazards
- **Implementing and enforcing** PPE program

Date: _____ Topic: _____

Safety Check Session Leader: _____

Learner Name (Please print)	Signature

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