

Pitched Roof Working Tips

- Perform a risk assessment – identify the risks that will be encountered before performing the specific tasks for the job for:
 - The pitch of the roof: the steeper the pitch, the more difficult it is to maintain your footing
 - Moisture: rain, snow or frost may cause slippery conditions on the roof
 - Dirt or sawdust may also cause slippery conditions
 - Footwear: traction of shoes/boots varies, always wear good traction shoes/boots
 - Tripping hazards: tools, electric cords, scrap, can create tripping hazards
- Use a fall arrest system, including: a full body harness, lanyard and a secure tie off to the roof or another approved tie off point preferably above the worker
 - Training: employees should be trained on using fall protection, the knowledge, skills, and experience to work safely along with the hazards of the job and how to protect themselves
 - Wear rubber-soled shoes or boots when performing roof work because they have better traction than leather soles
 - Special boots are available with skid-resistant metal cleats for roofers
 - If possible, plan the roof work for days when the roof will not be affected by moisture (rain, snow, ice and sleet)
 - If this is not possible, remove as much snow and ice as you can from the roof prior to beginning work, and use a fall protection system and wear skid-resistant boots
- Install the asphalt shingle under roofing as soon as possible to reduce weather exposure
- Install temporary 2 x 4 wood cleats for toe-holds
- When working in cold environments, dress for the cold by wearing cotton or polypropylene long underwear
- Wear multiple layers of lightweight clothing with waterproof outerwear
- Short exposure to Ultraviolet radiation (UV rays) can result in painful (but temporary) conditions such as watering eyes and blurred vision
- Protect the eyes by wearing UV filtering sunglasses
- Keep your center of gravity low and over your feet