

# Preventing Falls on the Job Site

In the construction industries, the most common accident that causes deaths or injuries is a fall. Many of those falls are from rooftops and scaffolding.

## Preventing falls from rooftops

- Fall protection is **REQUIRED** for anyone working on roofs or other work areas where the distance to the ground or another surface is more than six feet.
- Roofing slide guards are not fall protection.
- If the fall arrest equipment looks like it needs repair, remove it from service and have a competent person examine it.
- Permanent anchorages can be installed during roofing operations and left in place after construction is complete. They must support 5,000 pounds for each employee attached by lanyard or lifeline.

## Preventing falls from scaffolding

- Provide an access ladder.
- Only use scaffold-grade lumber.
- Install guardrails and toeboards on all scaffolding 10 or more feet above the ground.
- Make sure the scaffold is able to support four times the maximum intended load (including the weight of the scaffold).
- Make sure the scaffold is level by using screw jacks on base plates and mudsills.
- Keep scaffold within 14 inches of the building.

## Full Body Harness System

**B**

**Body Harness:**  
Personal equipment for employee.



**A**

**Anchor:** Must support 5,000 pounds for each employee attached by lanyard or lifeline.

**C**

**Connecting Device:**  
Lanyard or lifeline for arrest of fall over 2 feet must have shock absorption.

For more information and additional risk management and prevention tools, visit: [fwcruminsurance.com](http://fwcruminsurance.com)