



# VISITING A CONSTRUCTION SITE

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Disclaimer: This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. However, it is to be used for reference purposes only and is not intended to cover all aspects of the topic presented.

Visiting an active construction site can be both fascinating and risky, making safety a top priority. Whether you're there for work or an informational tour, it's crucial to be aware of the potential hazards. From heavy machinery and falling debris to uneven terrain, construction sites are filled with potential dangers. To help you navigate safely, we've compiled a top ten list of essential safety tips to follow while visiting an active construction site.

## 1. Check in with site security

On large construction sites, there may be a jobsite trailer or security officer present. Be sure to check in with the entity responsible for site supervision. In the event of an emergency or evacuation, it will be critical for management to know who is present on the jobsite. In some cases, a safety orientation will be required before you are permitted to visit the active work areas.

## 2. Follow signs

Pay attention to temporary signage posted throughout the site, such as "Authorized Personnel Only," "Hot Work Area," or "Use Temporary Walkway" and heed all warnings.

## 3. Wear a hardhat

On an active construction site, workers could be transporting materials above your head, with a crane, for example, or materials may not be secured. The date of manufacture should be printed on the inside of the hardhat, and it should be used for no more than 4-5 years from that date. In addition, factors such as excessive temperatures (ie, keeping your hardhat in your vehicle) can cause it to degrade more quickly, and be less effective in the event of an impact.

## 4. Wear a high visibility vest

It is important to make sure that you can be easily seen on a construction site, so high visibility vests are required. If someone wears clothes that blend in with the materials on the construction site, they can be easily overlooked and subject to injury.

## 5. Wear appropriate footwear

Appropriate footwear includes boots or shoes with hard soles. Shoes with open toes, high heels, and soft soles are strongly discouraged as there are sharp objects that can be stepped on or heavy materials that can be dropped on feet. Construction sites are often unlevel, and appropriate footwear will decrease the chance of slipping or tripping. In addition, if you expect to climb a ladder, choose footwear with a slight heel to "grip" ladder rungs.

## 6. Wear safety glasses & hearing protection

Any active construction site is a hazard for your eyes. Dirt, dust, rocks, and construction materials are constantly moving around, including through the air. Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from flying objects. If there is excessive

noise from tools and equipment, wear hearing protection, like ear plugs or muffs. Excessive is noise that makes it hard to hear someone talking conversationally within a 3' of you.

#### **7. Wear long pants to cover your legs**

Sharp object may be sticking up, and your legs may be subject to scratches and cuts. Skirts, shorts, and dresses are discouraged on the construction site. Wearing long pants will protect your legs from any harm

#### **8. If you have a guide, be sure to stay close to them as you move around the site**

It is easy to get lost on construction sites, so if you do not know where you are going, it is best to stick with your guide on the visit.

#### **9. Be aware of your surroundings**

It is common sense to have a general awareness of the construction site you are visiting. If there is a place where the materials appear to be unstable or if workers are vigorously working, do not approach that area. Make eye contact with machinery operators when crossing the machine's path. Safety is the first priority, and if you approach an area where people are working, they may have to stop and disrupt progress until you leave.

#### **10. Do not touch anything**

It is advised not to touch any materials on the construction site, especially any loose wires. Those wires may be live, and the materials could be sharp or recently painted.

In general, follow all instructions that your guide or the site supervisor may give you. They will know the best way for you to safely navigate the site. You not only want to be safe, you want to be welcomed back in the future!

**Attended By:**