

>> TOOLBOX TALK - Floor and Roof Openings

Explain Dangers

Without proper guarding, workers face exposure to falls when working around floor and roof openings. Avoiding such hazards may seem like common sense, but a moment of distraction around an unprotected opening can end in disaster.

Identify Controls

Installing guardrails is the best solution.

In situations where guardrails can't be installed, covers are the next best option. These covers must:

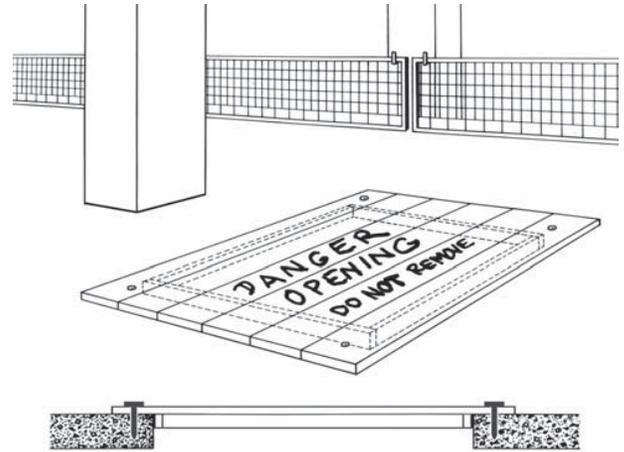
- completely cover the opening
- be securely fastened
- be labeled as a covering for an opening
- be made from material that can support any load that may be encountered on the worksite.

The labels on opening covers need to stand out. Use bright paint to create a warning sign on the cover that says something such as **DANGER! OPENING—DO NOT REMOVE! DO NOT LOAD!**

Always fasten the cover securely to prevent workers from removing it and falling through the opening. Where permanent covers or hatches are installed, they should be kept closed at all times except when they are being used for access.

Always use another means of fall protection when installing, removing, or working near an unprotected opening.

List Floor or Roof Openings on Site:



Pallet-Style Cover

Demonstrate and Discuss

After you talk about floor and roof openings, take a look around the jobsite. If there is an available roof or floor opening, install a cover and review how this complies with legislation. If you can't install a floor or roof covering, then talk about what everyone has seen on jobsites in the past and what types of openings they've encountered.

Has anyone seen an incident involving an uncovered opening? How could it have been prevented?

Complete and attach Toolbox Talk Meeting Form and process as per company policy.



TOOLBOX MEETING FORM

Date: _____ Project: _____

Supervisor: _____ No. in Crew: _____ No. Attending: _____

Review Last Meeting:

	Names of Attendees (Signature Required)
Topics Discussed (policies, practices, procedures, hazard assessment):	
Suggestions Offered:	
Action(s) to be Taken:	
Injuries/Accidents Reviewed:	

Supervisor's Remarks: _____

Signature: _____