



OSHA residential requirements

I am sure that safety is a concern for all of us. Accidents have many repercussions. Aside from the obvious injuries or deaths, there is loss of work, increased costs to the builder, and consumer, and delay of projects. We all wish to operate safely but sometimes we get side tracked and forget certain elements.

The Building Department is asking for your help and cooperation in seeing that OSHA safety regulations for residential construction are complied with.

The following is a list of the more crucial items:

1. Temporary protective caps on the ends of vertical reinforcement bars extending from footings and exposed to workers are installed.
2. Temporary stair railings 30" to 34" tall with top and intermediate 2x4 rails are installed.
3. Temporary guard rails 42" tall with top and intermediate 2x4 rails at high decks, porches, lofts, floor openings, wall openings and elevator shafts are installed.
4. Read and follow all safety and operation manuals for tools and equipment before use.
5. Workers on high pitch roofs, walls, and columns shall have a safety harness system for fall protection.
6. Workers in scaffold cranes have a safety harness system for fall protection.
7. Trash and debris are picked up regularly.
8. Enough light is provided for workers to see and prevent accidents.
9. Ladders extend at least 3' above roof and are set at proper angle on firm base.
10. Ladders are not used beyond their maximum weight capacity and other labeled limitations.
11. Precautions are taken while working between a foundation wall and deep excavations.
12. Scaffolds are erected per manufacturer and safety rails are installed.
13. Roof trusses are installed per manufacturers' instructions.
14. No alcoholic beverages or drugs are consumed on jobsite, nor do workers come to work under the influence of such.
15. Personnel boom, aerial, and scissor lifts shall utilize harnesses and follow manufacturer's operating instructions.

While we are out on standard inspections we will often note what is lacking. Although, we will not hold up any inspections because of these issues, I am sure you desire a safe jobsite. Your liabilities and the safety of all are at stake. Thank you for your cooperation.