

# Slips, Trips, and Falls

---



# Slips, Trips, and Falls Cause Many Injuries –Sometimes Serious Ones

---

- ÿ Thousands of disabling injuries- and even deaths- occur each year as a result of slips, trips, and falls:
  - › From heights, on stairs, and on level ground
  - › At work and at home



# Trips

---

## Trip

- hit an object, lose your balance and fall

## Common Causes:

- › Obstructed view
- › Poor lighting
- › Clutter in your way
- › Wrinkled carpeting
- › Uncovered cables
- › Drawers not being closed
- › Uneven (steps, thresholds) walking surfaces

# Falls

---

Fall:

- when you lose your balance & drop to the floor

There are three types of falls:

ÿ Falls on the same level

~  
>



# Maintain Work Areas to Prevent Slips, Trips, and Falls

---

- ÿ Keep walkways, aisles, and stairs free of equipment, materials, and other hazards.
- ÿ Clean up any leaks or spills on floors, stairs, and entranceways promptly.
- ÿ Repair or report floor problems, such as missing tiles, etc.
- ÿ Block off and mark floor areas that are being cleaned or repaired.
- ÿ Keep cords, cables, or hoses out of walkways. If it can't be avoided, make sure the area is marked off.
- ÿ Place trash promptly in proper containers.
- ÿ Keep drawers closed.





# Choose and Use ladders Carefully

---

- ÿ Use a ladder, not boxes or chairs, to reach high places.
- ÿ Use only ladders that have all their parts.
  - › Check that cleats, rungs, and steps are firm and unbroken.
- ÿ Choose a ladder that's the right height for the job.
- ÿ Place ladders firmly on level surfaces.
- ÿ Hold the rails and face the ladder as you climb it.
- ÿ Center your body between the ladder rails; don't lean to the side.



# Pay Attention to your Movements and Surroundings

---

# Pay Attention to your Movements and Surroundings

---

- ÿ Report or replace any burned out lights or inadequate lighting.
- ÿ Watch out for floors that are uneven, have holes, etc.
- ÿ Keep your hands at your sides, not in your pockets, for balance.
- ÿ Don't carry loads you can't see over.
- ÿ Walk slowly on slippery surfaces.
  - › Slide your feet and avoid sharp turns.

# Pay Attention to your Movements and Surroundings

---

- ÿ Sit in chairs with all four chairs legs on the floor. Make sure all wheels or casters are on the floor.
- ÿ Be constantly alert for-- and remove or go around-- obstructions in your path.



# Learn to Fall ‘Properly’

---

ÿ



## Conclusion:

---

# Be Alert and Safety Conscious— Prevent Slips, Trips, and Falls

- ÿ Pay attention to your movements and remove potential hazards from your path so you, and others, won't be injured by slips, trips, and falls.

ULM Environmental Health & Safety Department 342-5177