

In India, over 0.3 million workers are injured annually due to fall accidents. Statistics show that the majority (64%) of falls happen on the same level resulting from slips and trips. The remaining 36% are falls from height.



Avoid unplanned trips

While falls are among the most common accidents, they are also among the most preventable. What's the best way to prevent slips, trips and falls? First and foremost, pay strict attention to where you are stepping/walking at all times. Do not multitask while on patrol. Always look where you are going.

Do not look at paperwork, talk on the phone, or use radio while walking.

While indoors, watch for clutter, debris, cords, wires crossing the floor and open file cabinet drawers.

Stay alert for unexpected changes in the floor level, such as a step up, loose tiles, protrusions from the floor, buckled or torn carpeting, wet/recently washed or waxed flooring or greasy/oily surfaces.

When walking outdoors, be aware of curbs, potholes, cracks in pavement, dips in terrain, stones, debris and muddy areas.

You need to see where you are going. Avoid carrying a load which will block your view.

Only walk in areas with well-lit walkways and stairways. Always turn on the lights before entering a room or dark section of a building and use a flashlight to shine into dark areas.

If needed, use a flashlight when walking or patrolling in a predetermined safe patrol route in areas with insufficient light. Always use available handrails when going up and down stairs, ramps or inclined surfaces, and do not attempt to take more than one step at a time. If a hazard is noted, walk around it, not over it or take a different route.

Safety as a priority

Of course, safety at the workplace goes beyond just preventing falls. Overall safety on the job is a concern of every employer and worker. The most successful workplace safety programs require a commitment from the entire company including guards, supervisors and upper management.

At Securitas, safety training is proactive not reactive. Branch Managers have access to multiple safety training materials, like training aids, handouts, safety flashes and power point presentations. This gives each office the flexibility to choose its topics and keeps training relevant to each site.

Always adhering to safe work habits and never circumventing or ignoring the procedures that have been established to perform a job safely, is part of everyone's job. The bottom-line advice for staying safe at work is to remember that safety is no accident. Always "Think Safety First" before undertaking any task, no matter how many times you have done it before. If you see someone acting in an unsafe manner, stop and ask them if they have considered the potential consequences of their actions. Offer assistance by explaining a safer way of performing the task or different route.

Summary

Maintaining an attitude of safety is a critical part of staying safe on the job. Here are six fundamental elements of a good safety attitude that can direct safer work habits:



Awareness

Pay attention. Stay alert to the possible hazards in your work environment so that you can take steps to correct or guard against them.



Focus

Concentrate on the task(s) at hand. Distractions, boredom or fatigue can lead to accidents and other safety hazards.



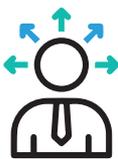
Strength

Have the strength to do the right thing, even when it's easier not to. Follow safety procedures every time.



Patience

Take time to do things correctly every time – like always buckling your seatbelt, even on quick trips. There are no shortcuts to safety.



Responsibility

Take responsibility for a safe work environment to benefit yourself and others. Immediately notify a supervisor of any noted unsafe conditions or safety concerns, so that they can be addressed, and other employees can be informed of the conditions/concerns and precautions necessary to avoid injury.



Think

Stop to think before you act. Accidents are not always the result of bad luck. They occur when someone decides-consciously or not - to take a chance. Be smart and avoid taking unnecessary risks and always **“Think Safety First.”**