

Take control

– Hitting objects with part of the body

Hitting against moving objects >

Information to help you prevent workplace injury and disease. By identifying causes and assessing and controlling risks you can take control of health and safety in your workplace.

Risk indicators in the workplace

Some things to look for include:

- Cluttered workplaces that prevent safe and easy movement (causing, for example, employees to collide with mobile machinery, moving knives);
- Working close to moving objects, such as trolleys and fork lifts;
- No warning mirrors fitted at intersections along which people and vehicles move;
- Poor lighting in work areas;
- Doors opening onto walkways;
- Small or cramped work spaces; and
- Inadequate guards.

Examples of what can be done to stop these occurrences from happening

Employers should, for example, make sure that:

- The workplace is kept uncluttered;
- Enough time is allowed for work to be done without the need for employees to rush their work;
- Mirrors, and warning lights are provided, for example, at locations where a cross aisle opens onto an area used by mobile equipment;
- Doors are either rehinged so that they do not open onto walkways, or warning devices are installed to warn people of them opening;
- People and mobile equipment are kept separate as far as possible;
- Designated walkways are set up and clearly defined and labeled;
- Appropriate personal protective equipment is provided (for example, mesh gloves for work involving knives);
- Training in safe handling procedures is provided (for example, in how to hold and use a knife to cut different types of materials);

putting safety first >



- The workplace is kept well lit; and
- Appropriate safety guards are fitted.

To find out more

The [Workplace Health and Safety Act](#) and the [Workplace Health and Safety Regulations](#) outline the minimum standards and the process to manage occupational health and safety in your workplace.

Specific regulations to note in respect of this topic are:

Regulation 47 Access and Egress

Regulation 48 Work Space

Regulation 49 Housekeeping

[Australian Standards](#) are available from the Territory Construction Association, phone 8922 9666. Australian Standards can be viewed online by visiting the Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, phone 8999 7177.

Australian Standards applicable to this topic include:

[AS 1657](#) Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders – Design, construct and installation

[AS 1680](#) Interior lighting

NT WorkSafe kindly acknowledges WorkCover SA.

NT WorkSafe >

**GPO Box 1722
Darwin NT 0801**

Telephone: 1800 019 115
Facsimile: (08) 8999 5141
Email: ntworksafe@nt.gov.au
Website: worksafe.nt.gov.au