Construction Safety Checklist

A construction site safety checklist covering hazards, PPE, fall protection, training and emergency readiness.

Safety program and documentation

- [ ] Maintain a written, site-specific safety and health plan.
- [ ] Post emergency contacts, the OSHA poster and permits on site.
- [ ] Assign a competent person for high-risk activities.
- [ ] Keep safety data sheets accessible for all hazardous materials.
- [ ] Log incidents, near misses and corrective actions.
- [ ] Schedule regular safety walks and document findings.

These items are general guidance and do not replace OSHA standards or a competent person's judgment.

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- [ ] Confirm hard hats are worn in all designated areas.
- [ ] Require safety glasses or face shields where hazards exist.
- [ ] Provide and require high-visibility clothing near traffic and equipment.
- [ ] Issue cut-resistant or task-appropriate gloves.
- [ ] Verify hearing protection in high-noise zones.
- [ ] Check that respiratory protection is available and fit-tested where needed.

Fall protection

- [ ] Guard or cover all floor openings, edges and skylights.
- [ ] Provide guardrails or personal fall arrest systems above required heights.
- [ ] Inspect harnesses, lanyards and anchor points before each use.
- [ ] Confirm ladders are rated, secured and used correctly.
- [ ] Verify scaffolds are erected and inspected by a competent person.
- [ ] Restrict access to areas with unprotected fall hazards.

Site and hazard controls

- [ ] Lock out and tag out energized equipment before service.
- [ ] Protect and identify all electrical cords, panels and outlets.
- [ ] Shore, bench or slope excavations and trenches as required.
- [ ] Keep walkways, stairs and exits clear of debris and trip hazards.
- [ ] Store flammables and chemicals safely and label containers.
- [ ] Maintain machine guards and confirm equipment is inspected.

Training and communication

- [ ] Run a safety orientation for every new worker on site.
- [ ] Hold regular toolbox talks on current and upcoming tasks.
- [ ] Verify task-specific training and certifications are current.

- [ ] Communicate hazards through signage, barricades and tags.
- [ ] Confirm workers know how to report hazards and incidents.
- [ ] Document attendance and topics for all safety training.

Emergency preparedness

- [ ] Post and brief the site evacuation plan and assembly points.
- [ ] Stock and inspect first aid kits and emergency supplies.
- [ ] Identify trained first aid and CPR responders on site.
- [ ] Maintain fire extinguishers and confirm clear access.
- [ ] Establish procedures for severe weather and site shutdown.
- [ ] Keep emergency vehicle access routes clear at all times.