

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

FRAME SCAFFOLD (Modular/Safeway Scaffold) Page 1 of 3

**This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

Components:

1. Erect all scaffold parts according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Select scaffold according to:
 - Height required;
 - Duration of work;
 - Weather conditions;
 - Location;
 - Weight of workers, materials and equipment.
3. Erect scaffold on a base that will support all the loads to be applied.
4. Compact and level backfill. Replace mud and soft soil with gravel or crushed rock.
5. Provide adequate sills for scaffold posts and use base plates.
6. Install scaffold with jackscrews. These allow for minor adjustments to keep scaffold plumb and level.
7. Set scaffold feet centrally on mud sills consisting of 50 x 250 mm (2 in x 10 in) planks. Sills should extend at least 600 mm (2 ft) beyond the scaffold base.
8. Take extra precautions when erecting scaffold on frozen ground. Thawing soil can lose its ability to bear weight.
9. Brace both sides of every frame. Install horizontal bracing at the joint of every third tier of frames. This often is the point where the scaffold is tied to the structure.
10. Do not force braces to fit. Level the scaffold until a proper fit can be made easily.
11. Use coupling devices to join frames. Without these, the joints can pull apart.
12. Install guardrails consisting of:
 - A top rail 1 m (40 in) above platform;
 - A mid rail about halfway between the platform and the top rail on the inside of the posts;
 - A toe board 100 mm (4 in) high fastened to inner side of posts;
 - Posts and rails capable of withstanding a force of at least 900N (200lb) applied at any point, or withstanding any load likely to be applied.

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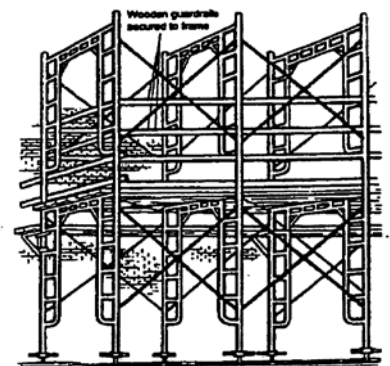
13. **Stability:** Do not allow the ratio of scaffold height to base width to exceed 3 to 1 unless the scaffold is:
- Tied into a structure.
 - Stabilized by guy wires.
 - Secured by outriggers to stabilizers to maintain ratio.

Assembly:

1. Check location for:
 - Ground conditions; obstructions; overhead wires; tie-in problems; changes in elevation.
2. Use safety harness which is tied off to scaffold or lifeline.
3. Assemble frame scaffolds with one other person (one on the scaffold, one passing materials).
4. Check for squareness and alignment of all scaffold parts.
5. Use jackscrews to eliminate hazards created by temporarily jacking up the erected scaffold to add shims.
6. Inspect locking devices frequently.
7. Install ladders as erection proceeds. When scaffolds are to be in place for extended period, install a stairway.
8. Fasten all braces securely.
9. Inspect planks prior to use.
10. Complete platform fully at each working level before assembling the next level.

DON'T:

- Mix frames and parts from different manufacturers.
- Substitute concrete blocks, bricks or scrap lumber for proper mud sill base, plates and jackscrews.
- Overextend jackscrews.
- Use ladders/makeshift devices on scaffolds to increase height.
- Use blanks that are used for sills as platforms.



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Dismantling:

1. Ensure stability of structure.
2. Clear platform of all materials and debris before dismantling.
3. Proceed in reverse order of erection.
4. Dismantle each tire completely before starting the one below.
5. Work from full platform decks while removing braces and frames.
6. Remove jammed or rusted components with caution.
7. Do not throw or drop boards or parts from a height.
8. Check and maintain all scaffold parts.
9. Lubricate moving parts of all fittings.