

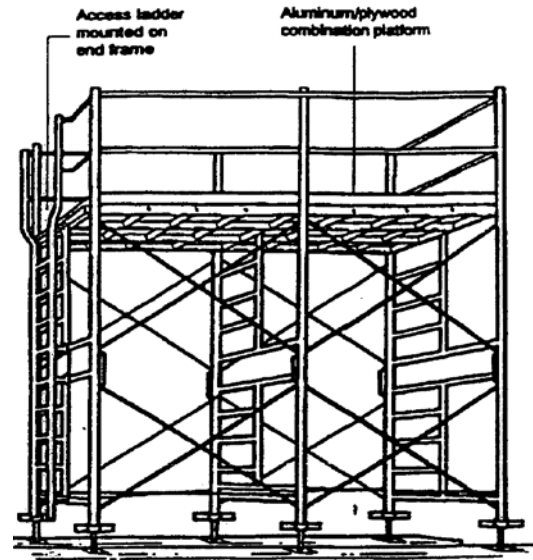
SAFE WORK PRACTICES

SCAFFOLDS & DECKS PAGE 1 OF 2

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

Scaffolds: Install, inspect, maintain and repair scaffolding in accordance with OH&S Regulations, standards and manufacturer's instructions.

1. Check the following before using scaffolding:
 - base is sound, level and adjusted
 - legs are plumb and all braces are in place
 - locking devices and ties are secured
 - cross members are level
 - planks, decks and guardrails are installed securely
2. Remove snow/ice from scaffold platforms, ladders, access area.
3. Use an access ladder, not scaffold frame, unless the frame is specially designed to be climbed.
4. Ensure that scaffolding is securely attached to the building structure. The effects from winds increase when scaffolds are covered.
5. Protect all planked or working levels with proper guardrails, mid rails and toe boards along all open sides and at the ends of scaffold platforms.
6. Replace guardrails that were removed while hoisting materials. Wear fall protection until guardrails are reinstalled.



DON'T:

- jump onto planks or platforms
- overload scaffold frames or platforms
- force braces – level scaffold until proper fit can be made
- rest materials or equipment on guardrails
- climb or stand on cross braces or guardrails
- try to repair bent or kinked frames – throw them out
- work on scaffolds during storms or high winds
- work below a scaffold without overhead protection
- use ladders or makeshift devices on top of scaffolds to increase height
- use scaffolds near electrical wires

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

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Decks: Use wooden and metal decks according to OH&S Regulations, standards and manufacturer's instructions.

1. Cleat planks at ends to prevent lengthwise movement. Planks may be wired down, provided wire does not create a tripping hazard. Where planks overlap, rest cleated end on support.
2. Ensure that scaffold planks meet the requirement of Section 174 of the OH&S Regulations.
3. Secure fabricated planks and platforms on their end support.
4. Ensure that adjoining planks are of uniform thickness for an even platform.
5. Lay planks side by side across the full width of the scaffold.
6. Check scaffold planks for large knots, worm holes and a steeply sloping grain at the edges, spike knots, splits and checks. Discard any planks showing these or other defects.
7. Check hooks and hardware of prefabricated platform units regularly for looseness, distortion and cracks. Damage can occur if the platforms are dropped or thrown.
8. Clean ice, snow, oil and grease off planks. Platform decks should be slip resistant and should not accumulate water.
9. **Storage:** Stack planks on a firm level surface to prevent warping. Band ends of boards. Do not paint, as this conceals defects. Do not use scaffold planks as a base to stack materials or as ramps or temporary roadways.

