

# Work Safely at Height



**Always use fall controls when required to work above 2 metres.**

## What are the Risk from falling from heights?

Significant injuries or death may result from falling from heights. Falls include those from platforms, ladders, rigging, scaffolding, roofs and into penetrations (e.g. holes in floors) or through brittle surfaces such as asbestos cement roofs.

Risk must be managed if a person can fall less than 3m (housing construction) and 2m (all other construction) or if work on a roof pitch is more than 26 degrees. Recommendations are not to go less than 2 metres from the edge without a fall safety control measures.



## Risk consideration for work at height

Can guardrails, screens, safety nets or barriers be erected prior to work commencing?

- Are personal fall arrest or restraint systems appropriate?
- Is there safe access to and from anchorage points?
- Are anchor points appropriate for shock loading expected?
- Are those working below, aware of work above?
- Are lanyards / safety lines working
- slack between worker and anchor points kept to a minimum so the pendulum effect is eliminated?
- Are employees trained in height safety work and rescue procedures?
- Is rescue equipment available if timely rescue cannot be expected from emergency services?

## Worksafe Australia identified fatalities

Working fatalities: number of traumatic injury fatalities by mechanism of injury, Australia, 2010-11

