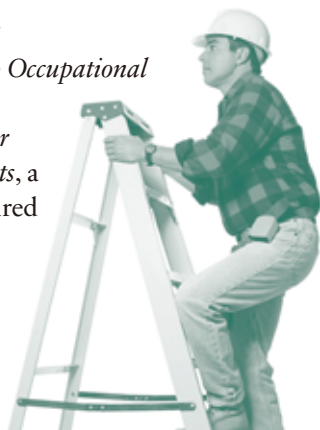


Things to consider

- Ensure your contractor or subcontractor is registered with the WSIB, or has other insurance coverage
- Inquire about your contractor's health and safety program
- Communicate your health and safety expectations, which should include housekeeping issues
- Ensure you are advised of any injuries or illnesses that occur during the project
- Ensure your fuel-burning appliances contractor is registered with the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA)

Did you know?

- A worker at risk of falling more than 3 metres (10 feet) must be protected by a guardrail system. If such a system is not practical, then a travel-restraint system, fall-arrest system, fall restricting system or safety net must be used.
- Injuries often occur when there is a rush to meet a deadline. You can prevent this by having flexible and reasonable timelines in place.
- Under the *Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act's Regulations for Construction Projects*, a supervisor is required if there are five or more workers working at one time.



Where to find out more

The WSIB's prevention hotline (1-800-663-6639 or 416-344-1016) can provide you with basic health and safety information. The WSIB's website (www.wsib.on.ca) has a wealth of health and safety information. Using the search box, type in the words "Construction Safety" and you will find safety information, policy details, and contact information.

Contacts:

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB):

PREVENTION HOTLINE PHONE NUMBER:

1-800-663-6639 or 416-344-1016

WEB ADDRESS: www.wsib.on.ca

Construction Safety Association of Ontario (CSAO):

TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBER: 1-800-781-2726

WEB ADDRESS: www.csaio.org

Ministry of Labour (MOL):

TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBER: 1-800-268-8013

WEB ADDRESS: www.labour.gov.on.ca

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): "What is a Constructor": http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/guidelines/constructor/cons_4.html

Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA):

TOLL-FREE: 1-877-682-8772 or 416-734-3300

WEB ADDRESS: www.tssa.org

The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
200 Front Street West
Toronto ON M5V 3J1

www.wsib.on.ca



Workplace Safety & Insurance Board
Commission de la sécurité professionnelle et de l'assurance contre les accidents du travail

Planning a residential construction or renovation project?

Don't forget to build in safety!





Focusing on safety can help keep your project on track

While the cost of materials and labour is an important consideration, you should also strive to hire workers who are experienced, reputable and safety conscious.

To ensure this is the case, ask about their experience and training; clarify how many workers will be involved in each phase of the project and if any supervision will be required. Most importantly, find out about the health and safety record of those people you're considering contracting.

Remember, when the project is underway, your home doubles as a work site under the Occupational Health and Safety Act. If you, as the homeowner, undertake all or part of a project, either on your own or by contracting work out to *more than one* contractor or employer, you become the constructor. This means that if an injury occurs due to unsafe practices, you could be charged and fined under this legislation.

Hiring safety conscious contractors and workers will not only help protect you from any liability, it will also lessen the chance of incurring costly delays associated with any injuries.

Plan for safety

Planning will help get any building project, big or small, off to a good start. Set aside some time with the contractor that you select to make sure that:

- the proper building permits have been obtained
- the project complies with all zoning by-laws
- specific safety measures are in place and are maintained as the project develops.



Be informed

The WSIB recommends that you gather detailed information on the contractors and workers you're considering hiring. Questions you should ask include:

- How long have they been in business?
- What licenses or qualifications do they have for their particular trade?
- What education and training, including safety training, do they have?
- What is their health and safety record like?
- What type of insurance does the worker or company owner have through the WSIB or through another insurance provider?

Are you drawing up plans to build your dream home, finish your basement, or add a new deck?

The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) wants you to be aware of some simple steps you should take to ensure that your project runs smoothly and safely.

As a homeowner, you have an important role to play in reducing injuries on the job by ensuring that appropriate safety measures are followed on your work site. Safety is a team effort, so make sure that all members of your project team work safely from the outset.