

Tile Setting Best Practices

Class Reading - Review Learning Objectives

Course Description:

Tile setting has a unique set of safety concerns when it comes to working on a jobsite. This module will help you understand a variety of safety concerns that affect tile setters in both residential and commercial environments.

Learning Objectives:

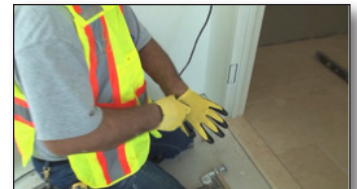
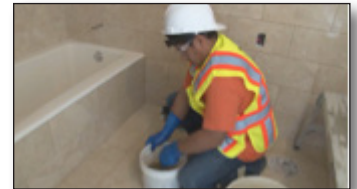
At the close of this course, you will be able to:

1. Recognize the unique safety hazards that affect tile setters and precautions that should be considered.
2. Know the typical Personal Protective Equipment employed by tile setters and how proper use will protect the workers.
3. Be aware of the proper use of installation tools and equipment.
4. Develop job hazard analyses documents to mitigate unsafe situations.
5. Understand that there is no place for complacency in the stone industry.

Let's recap some of the highlights from the video:

Know the typical Personal Protective Equipment employed by tile setters:

- Hardhats are typically mandatory for commercial installations, but may not be required in all residential environments.
- Safety glasses, steel-toed shoes, long pants and shirts with sleeve are required by all tile setters on a job site.
- Yellow or orange safety shirts or vest are mandated on commercial jobsites.
- 70 percent of works sustaining hand injuries were not wearing gloves so proper hand PPE are required at all times.
- It is recommended that tile setters inspect gloves before each use.
- If a tile setter wears regular glasses or contact lenses, they must wear safety glasses that wrap around and stay as close to the face as possible.
- If a tile setter is grinding and generating dust, always use a safety mask.
- Tile setters can avoid damage to hearing by using ear plugs or other devices which cover the ears like ear muffs.



Basics to lifting materials:

- Stand close to the load with your feet spread shoulder width apart. One foot should be slightly in front of the other for balance.
- Squat down, bending at the knees (not your waist). Tuck your chin while keeping your back as vertical as possible.
- Get a firm grasp of the object before beginning the lift.
- Slowly begin straightening your legs, lifting slowly. Never twist your body during this step.



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- Once the lift is complete, keep the object as close to the body as possible. If the load's center of gravity moves away from your body, there is a dramatic increase in stress to the lumbar region of the back.
- In addition to proper material lifting policies, tile installers should start with 4 to 5 stretches before beginning a project.

Proper use of installation tools and equipment:

- Make sure the equipment you use is in good working order, especially power tools and extension cords that can result in an electric shock if damaged.
- It is important to review a checklist of materials, tools, and miscellaneous equipment needed before leaving for a jobsite.
- Even with small ladders, there is a risk of falls that must be treated as serious.
- Vertical installations of tile above 6 feet may require the use of scaffolding.
- The majority of construction fatalities involve falls of less than 10 feet.
- When working on scaffolding, tile installers must wear a body harness.
- The overall project is under a safety standards umbrella orchestrated by the primary contractor.
- In the majority of larger projects, sub-contractors are asked to prepare a pre-installation hazard document which details the risks, what to do if an injury occurs and other information.

