



Safety Share

Guardrails

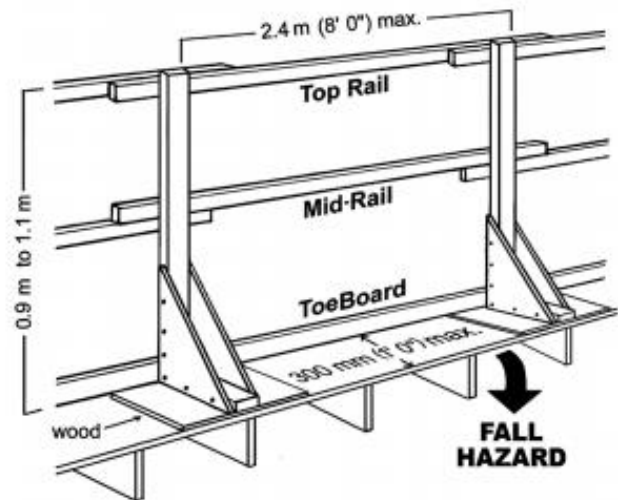
A guardrail is a type of fall protection intended to stop a worker from unintentionally stepping off an elevated work space and falling to a level below.

Guardrails must be installed:

- Where an open-sided floor, working platform, runway, walkway or balcony is over 1.22 metres (4 feet) above the existing floor or ground level.
- On walkways over open tanks containing harmful substances or over open tanks 1.22 metres (4 feet) or more in depth.
- On scaffolds where there is a risk of falling 3 metres (9 feet 10 inches) or more, or on to an obstruction that could cause injury to the worker.

Guardrails must also:

- Completely surround the hazard
- Be secured to prevent movement
- Include detour guardrails next to stairs, dangerous traffic or other hazards
- Be able to withstand 200 pounds of force in any direction
- Include a top rail between 0.9 to 1.1 metres (2 feet 11 inches to 3 feet 7 inches) in height
- Include a mid rail between the top and working surface
- Include toe boards at least 10 centimetres (4 inches) high over machinery and work area
- Be inspected daily



Important: When installing a guardrail, workers must use fall arrest or a travel restraint system if at risk of falling 3 metres (9 feet 10 inches) or more.