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Carpentry Safety Measures



By Michael Jumba

Carpentry is a trade that involves undertaking dangerous operations and activities using dangerous tools and equipment. Among these dangerous operations includes working in heights, working in confined spaces, lifting heavy objects, cutting, nailing among others. Some of the dangerous tools and equipment carpenters use include saws, hammers, chisels ladders, drills, nail guns, circular saws, Jigsaws, compound mitre saws, table saws just to mention a few. With carpentry being one of the trades that enables <u>interior design</u> to be possible, knowing the safety measures involved becomes necessary.

In order for the carpenter performing these dangerous operations using dangerous tools to be safe, strictly adhering to carpentry safety measures becomes important. Some of the carpentry safety measures include:

- i. Put on strong leather boots/shoes with toe caps.
- ii. Dress properly for carpentry work with a coverall/overall over your clothing.



- iii. Keep long hair away from blocking the eyes and away from moving machine parts.
- iv. Report any accidents/incidents at once, no matter how small and administer first aid.
- v. Use the proper procedure when lifting heavy objects. Never depend on your back muscles when lifting heavy objects. Seek help from someone and keep your back straight and bend your knee when lifting.
- vi. Note the position of the first aid box and fire extinguisher in case of an emergency.
- vii. In case of a fire, leave the workshop and or building immediately-walk in a quiet and orderly manner.
- viii. Do not smoke in the workshop.
- ix. Clean after yourself.
- x. Do not carry many tools at once.
- xi. Do not carry sharp-edged or pointed tools in your pocket.
- xii. When carrying sharp-edged or pointed tools, hold them close to the body and pointed down to the floor.
- xiii. When passing tools to a fellow worker, pass the handle first.
- xiv. Place tools in an orderly arrangement after completion of any operation or activity.
- xv. Clean all tools after every operation and return them to their proper storage.
- xvi. Always cut away from your body when using a chisel of a knife.

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