

Part	OHS Code	Intent	P	C	Risk	Guideline Statement
<b>Part 22</b> <b>Safeguards</b>	<b>Safeguards</b> <b>310(1)</b> Repealed <b>310(2)</b> An employer must provide safeguards if a worker may accidentally, or through the work process, come into contact with (a) moving parts of machinery or equipment, (b) points of machinery or equipment at which material is cut, shaped or bored, (c) surfaces with temperatures that may cause skin to freeze, burn or blister, (d) energized electrical cables, (e) debris, material or objects thrown from machinery or equipment, (f) material being fed into or removed from process machinery or equipment, (g) machinery or equipment that may be hazardous due to its operation, or (h) any other hazard. <b>310(2.1)</b> Repealed <b>310(3)</b> Subsection (2) does not apply to machinery that already has a safeguard that (a) automatically stops the machinery if a worker comes into contact with a moving part or a point at which material is cut, shaped or bored, (b) prevents a worker from coming into contact with a hazard referred to in subsection (2), or	Farm equipment, machinery, the environment and material used on farm can cause serious injury if not used properly or persons are unaware of the hazards involved.  Safeguards help reduce the risk of injury to potential hazards on the farm.	M	H	H	Employers should ensure that safeguards are put in place and workers are trained in the use of safeguards that minimize exposure to hazards on the farm.  If a safeguard cannot be <b>reasonably or practicably</b> be put in place, employers must provide alternate mechanisms or procedures to reduce risk of injury if workers are exposed to hazards.  If a machine can start automatically on a farm (like a water pump, automatic feed mill, any remotely controlled machinery, etc) the employer must ensure workers are aware of the machine and its operation and any potential hazard.

	<p>(c) eliminates the hazards referred to in subsection (2) before a worker can be injured.</p> <p><b>310(4)</b> If an employer determines that an effective safeguard cannot be provided in the circumstances, the employer must ensure that an alternative mechanism or system or a change in work procedure is put into place to protect workers from being exposed to hazards that exist if there is no safeguard.</p> <p><b>310(5)</b> An alternative mechanism or system or a change in work procedure put into place under subsection (4) must offer protection to workers that is equal to or greater than the protection from a safeguard referred to in subsection (3).</p> <p><b>310(6)</b> An employer must place warning signs on machinery that starts automatically</p> <p>(a) on a clearly visible location at a point of access to the machinery, and</p> <p>(b) that give clear instructions to workers on the nature of the hazard.</p>					
	<p><b>Tampering with safeguards</b></p> <p><b>311(1)</b> A person must not remove a safeguard from a machine that is operating if the safeguard is not designed to be removed when the machine is operating.</p> <p><b>311(2)</b> A person must not remove a safeguard or make it ineffective unless removing it or making it ineffective is necessary to perform maintenance, tests, repairs, adjustments or other tasks on equipment.</p>	<p>Tampering or removing safeguards without informing workers can present an increased risk of injury to employees.</p>	M	H	H	<p>Safeguards should remain in place unless it is necessary to remove them to continue to work productively or safely.</p> <p>If safeguards need to be removed, the employer must use administrative controls that control the hazard to a level as low as reasonably achievable.</p> <p>Workers need to be aware of the hazard, should be trained in alternate</p>

	<p><b>311(3)</b> If a worker removes a safeguard or makes it ineffective, the worker must ensure that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) alternative protective measures are in place until the safeguard is replaced,</li> <li>(b) the safeguard is replaced immediately after the task is completed, and</li> <li>(c) the safeguard functions properly once replaced.</li> </ul> <p><b>311(4)</b> If a safeguard for machinery is removed or made ineffective and the machinery cannot be directly controlled by a worker, the worker who removes the safeguard or makes it ineffective must lock out or lock out and tag the machinery or render it inoperative.</p>					<p>procedures to remain safe and must inform the employer and other workers if the safeguard remains removed.</p>
	<p><b>No safeguards</b></p> <p><b>312(1)</b> Despite other sections in this Part, an employer may allow the machinery to be operated without the safeguards if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) safeguards are normally required by this Code for machinery, and</li> <li>(b) the machinery cannot accommodate or operate with these safeguards.</li> </ul> <p><b>312(2)</b> If machinery in subsection (1) is operated without safeguards, the employer must ensure workers operating or in the vicinity of the machine wear personal protective equipment that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) is appropriate to the hazard, and</li> <li>(b) offers protection equal to or greater than that offered by the</li> </ul>	<p>Some machinery may need to be operated without safeguards (due to manufacturer specifications or other reasons). It is important to have other safety procedures in place if no safeguards are present to prevent injury.</p>	M	M	M	<p>For machinery that is operated without safeguards in place, the employer must use administrative controls that control the hazard to a level as low as reasonably achievable.</p> <p>The employer must ensure workers are trained in appropriate safety protocols and have access to other safety measures such as personal protection equipment (if practicable and reasonable)</p>

	safeguards.					
	<p><b>Building shafts</b></p> <p><b>313(1)</b> An employer must ensure that if a work platform is necessary to ensure the safety of workers in a building shaft, there is</p> <p>(a) a main work platform that is completely decked and designed to support any anticipated load, and</p> <p>(b) a second platform not more than 4 metres below the main work platform.</p> <p><b>313(2)</b> An employer must ensure that if there is no work platform at a doorway or opening to a building shaft</p> <p>(a) the doorway or opening is enclosed,</p> <p>(b) the enclosure is not less than 2 metres high, and</p> <p>(c) there is an access door opening out from the enclosed area.</p> <p><b>313(3)</b> An employer must ensure that, while a building shaft is being constructed, at least one warning sign indicating the presence of an open building shaft is placed at each point of entry to the shaft.</p>	Working in and around building shafts present an increased risk of falling or other injury.	L	H	M	<p>If there is a building shaft on farm, workers must be informed of the hazards of working in and around the shaft.</p> <p>Employers must ensure there are warning signs to indicate open shafts that are in construction.</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> on-farm feed mills and fertilizer / grain elevators (storage buildings).</p> <p>Fall protection must be provided.</p>
	<p><b>Covering openings</b></p> <p><b>314(1)</b> An employer must ensure that an opening or hole through which a worker can fall is protected by</p> <p>(a) a securely attached cover designed to support an anticipated load, or</p> <p>(b) guardrails and toe boards.</p>	Workers can be seriously injured if they fall through an opening or into a hole.	M	M	M	<p>Employers must ensure that a hole through which a worker can fall is covered appropriately, or a guard rail is installed, and/or workers are made fully aware of the hole and dangers involved.</p> <p>If an employer only uses a temporary cover, or the hole is open, they must</p>

	<p><b>314(2)</b> If a person removes a cover, guardrail or toe board, or any part thereof, protecting an opening or hole for any reason, an employer must ensure a temporary cover or other means of protection replaces it immediately.</p> <p><b>314(3)</b> If a temporary cover is used to protect an opening or hole, an employer must ensure a warning sign or marking clearly indicating the nature of the hazard</p> <p>(a) is posted near or fixed on the cover, and</p> <p>(b) is not removed unless another effective means of protection is immediately provided.</p>					<p>ensure there are warning signs clearly showing the hazard.</p> <p>Other reasonable and practical procedures may also protect workers from falling into a hole, such as a grain bin or hopper. <u>Example:</u> Use of spotters or personal fall protection may be options to ensure worker safety</p>
	<p><b>Guardrails</b></p> <p><b>315(1)</b> An employer must ensure that a guardrail required by this Code</p> <p>(a) has a horizontal top member installed between 920 millimetres and 1070 millimetres above the base of the guardrail,</p> <p>(b) has a horizontal, intermediate member spaced mid-way between the top member and the base,</p> <p>(c) has vertical members at both ends of the horizontal members with intermediate vertical supports that are not more than 3 metres apart at their centres, and</p> <p>(d) is constructed of lumber that is 38 millimetres by 89 millimetres or of material with properties the same as or better than those of lumber.</p> <p><b>315(2)</b> Despite subsection (1), a temporary guardrail does not require a</p>	<p>Guardrails are intended to prevent workers from falling or being exposed to other hazards (running machinery) that could cause injury.</p>	M	H	H	<p>Employers must ensure that guardrails are constructed and secured to prevent workers from falling or being exposed to a hazard, and be built to hold the potential load or stress being placed on it.</p> <p>If a guardrail cannot be provided, other safety measures should be put in place to prevent falling.</p>

	<p>horizontal intermediate member if it has a substantial barrier positioned within the space bounded by the horizontal top member, toe board and vertical members, that prevents a worker from falling through the space.</p> <p><b>315(3)</b> An employer must ensure that a guardrail is secured so that it cannot move in any direction if it is struck or if any point on it comes into contact with a worker, materials or equipment.</p>					
	<p><b>Hoppers, bins and chutes</b></p> <p><b>316</b> If a worker can access materials in hoppers, bins or chutes, an employer must ensure the hoppers, bins or chutes have horizontal bars, screens or equally effective safeguards that prevent a worker from falling into the hoppers, bins or chutes.</p>	<p>Safeguards help protect workers from falling into hoppers, bins and chutes</p>	L	H	M	<p>Employers must ensure workers understand the dangers of working in and around bins and hoppers and are trained in safety protocols.</p> <p>Employers should install, where reasonable and practicable, horizontal bars, screens or other fall protection measures to prevent workers from falling in bins, chutes, or hoppers.</p>
	<p><b>Machine failure</b></p> <p><b>317</b> If a worker may be injured if a machine fails, an employer must install safeguards on the machine strong enough to contain or deflect flying particles of material, broken parts of machinery and a shock wave.</p>	<p>Some machines that fail have the potential to deflect flying particles or broken parts that could injure workers</p>	L	H	M	<p>Employers must ensure employees are trained in safety procedures to prevent injury from flying debris. Where applicable, employers should install safeguards to prevent workers from being struck by debris if a machine fails</p> <p>Other safety measures could be adequate like positioning around the machine or keeping a safe distance from the operating machine</p>
	<p><b>Protection from falling objects</b></p> <p><b>318(1)</b> An employer must ensure that workers in a work area where there may be falling objects are</p>	<p>Falling objects can cause serious injury and loss of productivity if equipment or other assets are damaged.</p>	H	H	H	<p>Employers must ensure that workers are aware of potential falling objects and appropriate safeguards and/or safety protocols are implemented.</p>

<p>protected from the falling objects by an overhead safeguard.</p> <p><b>318(2)</b> An employer must ensure that a safeguard used under subsection (1) is designed to withstand the shock loads from objects that may fall onto it.</p> <p><b>318(3)</b> Despite subsection (1), if the danger from falling objects is in a location in a work site where workers go intermittently or incidentally to their regular duties, an employer may place appropriate and adequate warning signs, horns, flashing lights or similar devices at the location to warn workers of the hazard.</p> <p><b>318(4)</b> An employer must ensure that a safeguard used on a hoist or scaffold under subsection (1)</p> <p>(a) is made of wire mesh or an enclosure material that is equally or more efficient at containing equipment and materials,</p> <p>(b) is not less than 1 metre high from the floor, platform or working level of the safeguard, and</p> <p>(c) encloses all sides of a cantilever hoist platform or skip, except the side adjacent to the building.</p> <p><b>318(5)</b> If the material being hoisted or lowered is of a kind that prevents the sides of a cantilever hoist platform or skip from being enclosed as required by subsection (4), an employer must provide another effective alternative safeguard against falling materials for the workers.</p>	<p>Safeguards to prevent workers and assets from being struck by falling objects will ensure employee safety.</p>				<p><u>Example:</u> the common practice of lifting material in a bucket (hay, dirt, manure, rocks, wood, etc) pose a risk to workers on the ground or in the cab of the machine. Workers must be trained on the safe operation of front-end loaders.</p> <p>Workers operating the machine and working around it need to be aware of the hazards and be trained in procedures to minimize the risk of falling objects.</p> <p><u>Example:</u> Employers should install wire mesh and/or bars on the back of loader buckets to prevent debris from falling on the operator.</p>
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	<p><b>318(6)</b> An employer must ensure that a safeguard around the surface opening of an underground shaft serving a tunnel</p> <p>(a) is made of wire mesh or an enclosure material that is equally or more effective at containing equipment and materials, and</p> <p>(b) is not less than 1 metre high from the surface.</p> <p><b>318(7)</b> An employer must ensure that a safeguard is installed on all sides of</p> <p>(a) the cage of a building shaft hoist or a tower hoist, or</p> <p>(b) a hoist cage in an underground shaft serving a tunnel.</p> <p><b>318(8)</b> An employer must ensure that a safeguard used on a cage under subsection (7) is made of</p> <p>(a) wire mesh, or</p> <p>(b) an enclosure material that is equally or more effective at containing equipment and materials and at protecting workers from hazards associated with the movement of a cage in a shaft.</p>					
	<p><b>Push stick or block</b></p> <p><b>319</b> If a worker may be injured while feeding materials into cutting or shaping machinery, an employer must ensure the machine worker uses a push stick, push block or other similar means of feeding the material.</p>	<p>Workers can be seriously injured if feeding material by hand into a cutting or shaping machine.</p> <p>Push sticks or blocks can help ensure the worker doesn't have to use their hands, reducing risk of injury.</p>	L	H	M	<p>Employers must ensure workers are trained in operation and safety procedures when working with cutting or shaping machines that require feeding material into them.</p> <p>Push sticks, blocks, or other tools may help with feeding materials and reducing potential of serious injury to workers.</p>
	<p><b>Safety nets</b></p> <p><b>320(1)</b> An employer must ensure that a safety net</p>	<p>Safety nets are another safeguard that can be used to catch workers from falling</p>	L	H	M	<p>If employers use safety nets to catch workers from falling or deflect falling material, they must ensure the nets are</p>

	<p>(a) meets the requirements of ANSI Standard A10.11-1989 (R1998), <i>Construction and Demolition Operations – Personnel and Debris Nets</i>,</p> <p>(b) has safety hooks or shackles of drawn, rolled or forged steel with an ultimate tensile strength of not less than 22.2 kilonewtons,</p> <p>(c) has joints between net panels capable of developing the full strength of the web,</p> <p>(d) extends not less than 2.4 metres beyond the work area,</p> <p>(e) extends not more than 6 metres below the work area, and</p> <p>(f) is installed and maintained so that the maximum deflection under impact load does not allow any part of the net to touch another surface.</p> <p><b>320(2)</b> An employer must ensure that the supporting structure to which a personnel safety net is attached is certified by a professional engineer as being capable of withstanding any load the net is likely to impose on the structure.</p> <p><b>320(3)</b> Subsection (1) does not apply to properly maintained rescue nets used by fire fighters and other emergency services personnel.</p>	<p>or protect workers from being struck by falling material.</p> <p>It is important that safety nets are installed properly and are certified for the job they are used for (including strength and load capacity)</p> <p>Nets that are not strong enough can be as dangerous as having no protection at all.</p>				<p>certified for the impact loads and installed properly.</p>
	<p><b>Toe boards</b></p> <p><b>321(1)</b> An employer must ensure that</p> <p>(a) a toe board required by this Code is not less than 140 millimetres in height above the surface of the work area, and</p>	<p>Toe boards are important to prevent falling debris from walkways or scaffolds onto workers below, or workers from slipping through guardrails if they fall.</p>	L	H	M	<p>Employers should install toe boards where reasonable and practicable in cases where workers or debris have potential to fall greater than 2 metres.</p> <p>If toe boards are not practical, then workers must be made aware of the</p>

<p>(b) the space between the bottom of the toe board and the surface of the work area is not more than 6 millimetres high.</p> <p><b>321(2)</b> An employer must ensure that toe boards are installed at the outer edge above the work area if a worker may be under a permanent floor, platform, mezzanine, walkway, ramp, runway or other permanent surface where</p> <p>(a) guardrails are installed, or</p> <p>(b) materials can fall more than 1.8 metres.</p> <p><b>321(3)</b> An employer must ensure that toe boards are installed at the outer edge above the work area of temporary scaffolding or a temporary work platform if materials can fall more than 3.5 metres.</p> <p><b>321(4)</b> An employer must ensure that toe boards are installed around the top of a pit containing a machine with exposed rotating parts if workers may be working in the pit.</p> <p><b>321(5)</b> Subsection (1) does not apply to</p> <p>(a) the entrance of a loading or unloading area if the employer takes other precautions to ensure that materials do not fall from the permanent surface, or</p> <p>(b) the entrance to a ladder.</p>					hazard and trained in alternative safety procedures to prevent injury from occurring.
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	<p><b>Wire mesh</b>  <b>322</b> An employer must ensure that wire mesh used in a safeguard required by this Code is</p> <p>(a) fabricated of wire at least 1.6 millimetres in diameter, and</p> <p>(b) spaced to reject a ball 40 millimetres in diameter.</p>	<p>Appropriately built and installed wire mesh safeguards will prevent workers from being struck by objects.</p>	M	M	M	<p>When installing wire mesh as a safeguard, employers should ensure it is strong enough to hold the impact and will holdback objects as small as 40mm or 1.5 inches in diameter <u>Example:</u> medium to large gravel</p>
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