

Preventing falls through a fragile roof

➤ Manager

- 1) Visit site and assess risks
- 2) Plan a safe system of work – see advice on the hierarchy of risk controls below
- 3) Brief teams effectively, use a method statement
- 4) Confirm that safety precautions are in place before work starts

➤ Worker

- 1) Check the method statement with your supervisor and raise any concerns
- 2) Before starting work check that the safety measures are in place
- 3) Take the time to do the job safely
- 4) If you are on the roof and safety precautions are inadequate, stop work
- 5) Stay alert to risks through out the job, think before you move position on the roof.

➤ Planning - Prioritising decisions and managing risks

- 1) Tackle the job from underneath – work safely from a guard-railed platform eg from a MEWP or tower scaffold
- 2) If you have to do it from above all these points are important:
 - a. Ensure that sufficient safety nets are securely anchored closely under fragile areas that will be used for access
 - b. Ensure access to the roof is secure – a fixed scaffold and ladder access is recommended
 - c. Fit edge protection, guardrails, protect open edges
 - d. Use crawling boards (with guardrails if not below) where appropriate eg on fragile or slippery surfaces
- 3) Ensure that workers are trained, authorised, briefed about the safe system of work and adequately supervised
- 4) Use the HSE guidance material below to inform and instruct your workforce.

➤ Links



Use a fixing system that allows sheet installation from below using just standard tools and a cherry picker.



Health and safety in roof work is the main source of guidance online (See paras 170-202)
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/hsg33.pdf>



For minor work see: Minor roof maintenance work: Protecting against falls
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/falls/campaign/roofmaintenance.pdf>

➤ Record your Site Briefing Here

Who has been briefed

I confirm that I have briefed these people on the Key points of the HSE Step3 guidance note on behaviours that can prevent accidents

Signed off by _____

➤ Concerns Raised At The Briefing

➤ Changes implemented or actions planned

➤ SLAM

STOP work if you find yourself in danger - this is your right in Law

Look around you before taking any action, is anybody else at risk

Assess the situation, take a few minutes to think through the actions you should take to put things right

Manage the risks as the job goes on, anticipate and control risk before the problem emerges