

Stop slips in kitchens

Get a grip

How to choose suitable footwear for a kitchen environment

Footwear can play an important part in preventing slips, especially in work situations where floors can't be kept dry or clean.

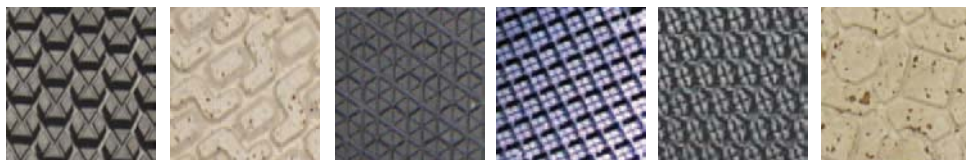
Sensible footwear

Wearing flat shoes that have good grip, are kept clean and fit well can make a difference in a kitchen environment. Avoid certain footwear, such as open-toed shoes, sandals, flip-flops, heels and smooth soles, etc.

Slip-resistant footwear

In some kitchens (see the good practice guide), a sensible shoe will not be enough to reduce slips and slip-resistant footwear may be required.

- Take care when choosing footwear on the basis of brochure descriptions, as footwear marked as 'slip-resistant' may not perform well in your workplace. It would be sensible to undertake a footwear trial before you buy.
- Footwear that performs well in wet conditions might not be suitable where there are food spillages. Sole tread needs to be kept clear of waste or debris. If they constantly clog up, the sole design is unsuitable for your workplace.
- Good tread pattern and a flexible sole is important. Choose a shoe with a well-defined tread pattern, the more edges, the firmer the grip (see below for some examples of a well-defined tread pattern).



- Choose footwear that is comfortable to wear all shift. Consider how easy it is to clean and maintain and how long it will last.