

Job Hazard Analysis

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Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) is a way to help workers focus on accident prevention by writing down the steps, possible hazards, and controls for any specific job. A job hazard analysis can help workers and their supervisors find hazards before they turn into accidents.

- Job Hazard Analysis is sometimes called by different names and many companies have their own forms and processes - the basic idea is to find hazards and prevent injuries.
- Workers and supervisors are the best sources for identifying hazards in the work they perform.
- For each step in a task the hazards should be identified, written down or checked off.
- Every hazard discovered has to have a safety control or accident prevention method written down.
- JHAs are often done at the start of a new job, and may be required daily.
- A few minutes used to write a good JHA can save hours or days lost to an injury.
- A specific work task can be separated into a series of simple steps. For each step hazards should be identified.
- A job hazard analysis is an exercise in detective work.

For each hazard written it is important to take the next step and write down a way to reduce, eliminate, or control the hazard. Consider these ideas as a few examples safety controls:

- Safety handles and guards for tools and equipment available?
- Can you move the work to ground level or prepare on the ground and lift it to a safe area?
- Are the right tools, materials and equipment being used?
- Is there a lift, or scaffold available instead of ladders?
- Are electrical or other power sources able to be switched off?

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