

Housekeeping: keep the work route clear

Talk 08 of 52 | Week 8 | Daily jobsite safety

Leader: adapt this talk to today's electrical work and site procedures. See the educational-use and liability notice on page 2.

START THE CONVERSATION

Offcuts, packing straps, and scattered fittings can turn a routine walk into a fall. Housekeeping is part of the task, not just something to do before leaving.

KEY TALKING POINTS

1. Keep work areas, passageways, and stairs clear of debris. Address protruding nails and other sharp waste using the site's safe disposal process.
2. Put waste containers near the work and empty them before they overflow. Keep usable stock separate from scrap.
3. Plan staging so material does not obstruct routes, emergency access, or the next crew's work.
4. Report spills and correct them using the appropriate procedure. Do not walk past a hazard assuming someone else will deal with it.
5. Electrical job example: wire insulation, conduit offcuts, empty fixture cartons, and cable ties accumulate during a rough-in. Select a staging area and waste location before the crew begins. Keeping small debris under control makes it easier to move access equipment and prevents usable fittings from being mixed with scrap.
6. Walk the route used to carry long conduit and deliver panel components. Consider the width of the load as well as the person carrying it. Ask another trade to resolve conflicting staging rather than shifting the obstruction into a different walkway where the next crew will encounter it.
7. Use a short handover check when the crew leaves an area. Identify remaining stock, unfinished work, waste needing removal, and the person responsible for each item. A useful closeout question is: could another electrician safely enter this area and understand what still needs attention without our explanation?

ASK THE CREW

1. Where is debris building up today?
2. Who owns cleanup when trades share the area?

BEFORE WORK STARTS

Assign a cleanup responsibility and check the route before work resumes.

OSHA SOURCES / FURTHER READING

OSHA 1926.25: Housekeeping

Attendance & action record

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Date: _____ Leader: _____

Company / jobsite: _____

Site hazards and controls discussed:

Follow-up action / responsible person / due date:

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Participant name	Signature / acknowledgment

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