



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Trash Chutes

Construction trash chutes are a fast and convenient way to remove waste materials from building floors, rooftops, and elevated areas of a worksite. Trash chutes increase productivity but can put workers at risk if not properly used, installed or supported. Remember that an enclosed chute is required when debris is being dropped more than 20 feet and no materials are safe to drop outside exterior walls of a structure unless the area is protected or gated.

Signatures

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Safety Tips:

- The opening of a chute must have a 42 inch high anchored guard rail around it.
- A secured 4 inch thick by 6 inch high toeboard is required when using wheelbarrows.
- Make sure to remove all trash and debris from the work area as the work progresses.
- Do not store or let scrap lumber, waste materials, or rubbish pile up.
- Do not throw oily rags, flammable liquids, or solvents down chutes.
- Chutes at an angle of more than 45 degrees must be enclosed.
- Chute openings should be 48 inches or less in height as measured along the chute wall.
- Keep openings/gates on each floor closed when not in use.
- Assign a competent person to control the gate and the loading of trucks at the discharge end of the chute.
- Only use chute sections that are tight fitting and of adequate strength.
- Large and heavy chutes must be supported by a secondary frame.

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.252 and 1926.852