

RED ZONE

Accounts for the 6 feet closest to the leading edge and typically the most dangerous area on the rooftop. When a person is working in this area, OSHA requires conventional fall protection such as guardrails, anchors or lifeline systems.

OSHA 1910.28(b)(13)(i)

ORANGE ZONE

Covers the area 6 feet to 15 feet from the leading edge. Conventional fall protection such as guardrails, anchors or lifeline systems are required as danger remains high due to the proximity to the roof edge. If the work being performed is "infrequent and temporary," the employer may use a designated area. Designated areas are typically created by using a warning line system. OSHA does not clearly state what constitutes as an "infrequent and temporary" task. OSHA 1910.28(b)(13)(ii)

GREEN ZONE

The least dangerous, but still requires safety measures to ensure worker safety. When work is performed 15 feet or more from the roof edge, the employer must protect each employee by providing a fall protection system or a designated area. If the work being performed is "infrequent and temporary," fall protection isn't required, but we still recommend it. Remember that there could be other risks in this zone such as skylights, pits, elevation changes and other trip hazards.

OSHA 1910.28(b)(13)(iii)





OSHA COMPLIANT ROOF SAFETY

A

Toe-boards are recommended on guardrail systems that are over access doors, walk-paths or areas where people may be working below per OSHA 1910.28(c)(1).

B

Roof hatches (when open) are considered a hole and therefore are a fall hazard. OSHA 1910.28(b)(3)(i), OSHA 1910.28(b)(3)(iv).

C

Fixed ladders over 24ft in vertical height require a ladder safety device or fall protection anchor per OSHA 1910.28(b)(9)(i) A, B, C & D.

D

Equipment within 15ft of a fall hazard must be protected by a form of fall protection. Exception for the 6ft - 15ft zone: if the work performed is temporary and infrequent, a warning line could be used. OSHA 1910.28(b) (13)(ii).

E

Skylights must be protected as per OSHA 1910.28(b)(3)(i).

F

When workers are 15ft or greater from the fall hazard, fall protection is still required. If the work performed is temporary and infrequent, then fall protection is not required per OSHA 1910.28(b)(13)(iii)(A). If there's frequent access, fall protection will be required.

G

Safe access must be provided over obstacles, pipes or elevation changes that exceed 19in per OSHA 1926.1051(a).

H

If the parapet wall height is less than 39in, a form of fall protection must be provided. OSHA 1910.29(b)(1).

Clearly designated paths of travel coupled with documented training can result in workers being kept away from fall hazards. OSHA 1910.22(c).

Warning Line Systems can be set no closer than 6ft from the leading edge if the work being performed is "infrequent and temporary." Best practice is to install warning lines 15ft from the leading edge. OSHA 1910.28(b)(13)(ii).