

Kitchen Employee Safety

Slips and trips are some of the most common injuries for kitchen employees. To avoid accidents like these, it's important to maintain a clean kitchen area and put safety guidelines in place.

Safety Rules

- Employees must wear seat belts when driving on company business.
- Report to work free from the aftereffects of drugs or alcohol.
- Horseplay is prohibited.
- Report maintenance needs or hazards before the end of the work shift.
- Report incidents or injuries in writing immediately.
- When using knives and cutting tools, keep hands and fingers out of the way.
- Keep knives and cutting tools sharp.
- Place unused knives in a stored area and do not leave unused knives out.
- Do not hand knives to co-workers. Pick up knives by the handle only.
- To prevent fires, keep long clothes, dish towels and aprons clear of hot cook tops and burners.
- To prevent entrapment, keep long clothing, jewelry and aprons clear of industrial dough mixers.
- Turn handles of hot pots and pans inward to prevent them from being knocked over.
- Use correct potholders to handle hot pots and pans.
- To prevent steam burns, do not use wet wash rags to clean hot surfaces.
- Wear long, protective gloves and a proper apron when handling hot liquids or grease.
- Prevent falls by cleaning up spills of food, grease and liquids immediately.
- Keep emergency exits clear, unblocked and unlocked.
- Keep fire extinguishers, hood fire and fire alarm pull stations clear and unblocked.
- Do not use water on a grease fire. Cover grease fires with lids or use a foam or ABC dry-chemical fire extinguisher.
- To prevent slips, trips and falls, keep trash and waste piles cleaned up.
- Do not store materials on stairs. Keep stairs clear of grease buildups and trash.
- Do not run in the kitchen area.
- Wear appropriate slip-resistant footwear when working in the kitchen area.

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