

# FORKLIFT SAFETY

## SAFETY TALK

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Management must allow only certified operators to use industrial trucks and must enforce safety rules. Operators must follow the rules and everyone else should know the dangers of forklifts, high-lift trucks, cantilever trucks, motorized hand trucks, pallet trucks, reach-rider trucks, and order-picker trucks. With a team effort, projects can be completed safely.

### WHAT TO KNOW

According to regulations, all powered industrial truck operators must be trained and certified. Make sure your training program covers these areas:

1. The general hazards of operating powered industrial trucks
2. The particular hazards of your trucks
3. The general hazards of workplaces
4. The particular hazards of workplaces where your trucks will be used

**Passing the test doesn't automatically make anyone a safe operator. Consider potential hazards every time you operate a powered industrial truck.**

### CHECKLIST

- Is your truck in safe operating condition?
- Visibility may be a problem. Are you conscious of other workers?
- Have you made sure your loads are secure and within the truck's capacity?
- Are you aware of uneven, soft, or unstable ground that could cause your truck to tip or become stuck?
- Do you allow riders on the forks, load, or other places not designed to carry passengers?

**Whether you are using a back or forklift, you must evaluate your load, route, and destination before you begin a lift.**

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What conditions at our workplace could cause an accident when powered industrial trucks are used?
2. Have our powered industrial truck operators been trained and evaluated in keeping with regulations?
3. Are there any specific points or problems you wish to discuss?

**ACCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE. LEARN MORE AT [GRINNELLMUTUAL.COM](http://GRINNELLMUTUAL.COM).**

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