Hierarchy of fall protection: The preferred order of control for fall hazards

As the hierarchy progresses, so does the risk.

Passive fall protection

Physical barriers, like guardrails around unprotected edges and covers over holes.



Fall restraint systems

Use PPE to restrict the worker's range of movement so they cannot fall. (Training required)



Fall arrest systems

use PPE to arrest
a fall within
acceptable force
and clearance
margins.
(Training and
rescue planning
required)



Administrative controls

Least preferred solution is work practices or procedures that increase a worker's awareness of a fall hazard. (Not recommended)



Preferred solution is to eliminate exposure to the fall hazard.

Hazard

elimination



