

Job site: _____
 Foreman: _____

Date: _____
 G.C. _____

SMOHIT Safety Sense
 Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry

Bandages and Dressings

- Bandages and dressings for wounds include sterile compresses, gauze, adhesive bandages (BAND-AID®), and triangular bandages that can be used either open or folded.
- While each type of bandage is applied a different way, there are basic rules about all bandages that you should know:
 - Make sure a bandage extends at least one inch on all sides of a wound and that a cover dressing is applied to completely cover the bandage.
 - Wounds should be covered snugly, but not tightly. A bandage that is too loose may slip off the wound, but if a bandage is too tight, it could damage the surrounding tissue or hinder the blood supply. If a victim complains that a bandage is too tight, or he/she experiences numbness or a tingling sensation in the affected area, loosen the bandage enough to make it comfortable but secure.
 - When bandaging arms and legs, leave the tips of the fingers and toes uncovered, if possible, to detect any circulation problems. Signs of poor circulation include swelling, changes of color, and coldness.
 - If bandages become saturated with blood, do not remove them. Instead, apply additional bandages or dressings on top and apply more pressure to slow bleeding.
 - Never tie a tight bandage around the neck. It could cause strangulation.

Instructor Tips

- **Provide examples of different types of bandages and dressings from the company's first-aid kit.**

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