

Jobsite: \_\_\_\_\_  
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<b>SMOHIT Safety Sense</b> Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry	<h3>Guardrails</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accidents due to lack of guardrails occur frequently and can result in injuries or death.</li> <li>• Workers may work more efficiently if they know that they are protected from serious falls.</li> <li>• Workers should be cautioned against becoming too dependent on guardrails. Guardrails are for emergency use and not to be used for leaning against, supporting tools or equipment, or other non-approved uses.</li> <li>• Guardrails should be built in a secure fashion according to the following guidelines:</li> <li>• Guardrail requirements vary for different industries. Federal OSHA regulations require guardrails for a platform that is 6 feet or higher than the ground or level below it, but some states may require guardrails for heights lower than 6 feet.</li> <li>• Guardrails must be able to withstand a 200-pound load in any direction. Railings must be of adequate strength to restrain a person from falling.</li> <li>• Guardrails are usually made of 2x4 lumber or steel pipe. Fiber or wire rope may be used if it is fastened to rigid supports, kept taut, and flagged so it can be easily seen.</li> <li>• The top rail should be approximately 42" above the platform surface, with a mid-rail about 21" from the surface.</li> <li>• Each guardrail should be inspected for proper construction and security before workers are allowed to work in the guarded area.</li> </ul>	<h3>Instructor Tips</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ask workers to give examples of where guardrails must be used (anywhere workers are 6 feet or higher from a lower level).</b></li> <li>• <b>Review guardrail regulations for your state or jurisdiction.</b></li> <li>• <b>Stress the importance of not becoming dependent on guardrails.</b></li> </ul>
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