

Slip, Trip and Fall Hazards

Almost 20% of all reported accidents in Ireland in 2011 were related to slips, trips and falls in the workplace*

There are a considerable number of hazards associated with slips, trips and falls in the workplace. These hazards include:

Entry & Exit Points

- Slippery surfaces from rain, leaves, etc.
- Absence of mats or absorbent material
- Worn or damage floor mat
- Surface changes

Walk-ways

- Trailing cables
- Rubbish on the route
- Items stored in walkways (boxes, low shelves, bins, etc.)
- Torn carpets, mats or rugs
- Broken or cracked floor tiles
- Holes or bumpy surfaces



Stairs / steps

- Poor lighting
 - Items stored at the top or bottom of stairs and steps
 - Carrying items on the stairs
 - Inadequate signage
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Cleaning & Spills

- Slippery or wet floor surfaces
- Over-used 'wet floor' signs
- Liquids spilt on floors (tea, coffee, water, etc.)
- Over-use of water while cleaning floors

Footwear

- Footwear worn at work may be inappropriate for the particular location and type of work activity
- Slip resistant footwear may be required but not used

Slip, trip and fall hazards can cause:

- Cuts
- Broken bones
- Muscle sprains and strains
- Dislocations
- Back and neck pain
- Concussion
- Damage to equipment (when the person falls)