

Welfare facilities

What you need to know as a busy builder

Pushed for time running a busy building site? These are the essential health and safety top tips you should follow, even if you don't directly employ the people working on your site.

You should provide:

- clean and working toilets;
- washbasins with hot and cold running water;
- soap and towels;
- sinks large enough to wash face, hands and forearms;
- somewhere to change, dry and store clothing;
- drinking water, and cups if needed; and
- a rest area to sit, make hot drinks and eat food.

You must also keep your welfare facilities warm and well ventilated, with lighting if necessary.

This is just a summary – you can find out what else you need to know about health and safety by visiting

www.hse.gov.uk/construction/index.htm

What can happen if health and safety is ignored?

At an inspection, a company was found not to have provided welfare facilities at a construction site and was served with an improvement notice. The company failed to provide the facilities within the timescale and was prosecuted. The company received a £2000 fine for not complying with the notice, a £5000 fine for not providing the welfare facilities, and had to pay prosecution costs of £1272.

See over for examples of good practice...

Unacceptable



Good example



Further information

For information about health and safety, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this guidance, visit www.hse.gov.uk/. You can view HSE guidance online and order priced publications from the website. HSE priced publications are also available from bookshops.

This document contains notes on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.

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