Fragile roofs and roof lights

About 5 minutes · Read it out, then ask the questions at the end.

> **Why it matters.** Falls through fragile roofs and roof lights kill people every year. Many roof materials look solid but won't take a person's weight, especially old sheeting and roof lights painted over or dirty.

The hazards

- Falling through fragile sheets and roof lights
- Roof lights hidden by paint, dirt or moss
- Falling from unprotected roof edges
- Wet, icy or windy conditions
- Unsafe access onto the roof

Stay safe

- Treat every roof as fragile until a competent person says otherwise
- Never walk on fragile sheets or roof lights
- Use stagings, crawling boards or a safe platform, as the plan says
- Make sure roof lights are covered or guarded before work starts
- Use edge protection and netting where the plan calls for it
- Stop work in high winds, rain or ice
- Only go onto a roof if you are authorised and trained

Ask the team

1. Which parts of this roof are fragile?
2. How are roof lights protected on this job?
3. When would you stop roof work because of the weather?

The law and guidance

Work at Height Regulations 2005. HSE INDG284, Working on roofs.

General guidance to help you give a toolbox talk. It doesn't replace your site's risk assessments, method statements, permits or training. Check it against your own site rules before you give it.

Free toolbox talk from EW Group, 110V site temps specialists. www.ewgroup.co.uk · Bristol 0117 982 0005 · London 020 7476 0001

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Fragile roofs and roof lights

Site: Date:

Given by: Company:

By signing, I confirm I attended this toolbox talk and understood it.

Name (print)	Company	Signature	Time

Keep this record with your site's training and briefing records.