

Platforms

Platforms - Suspended Work

On this page

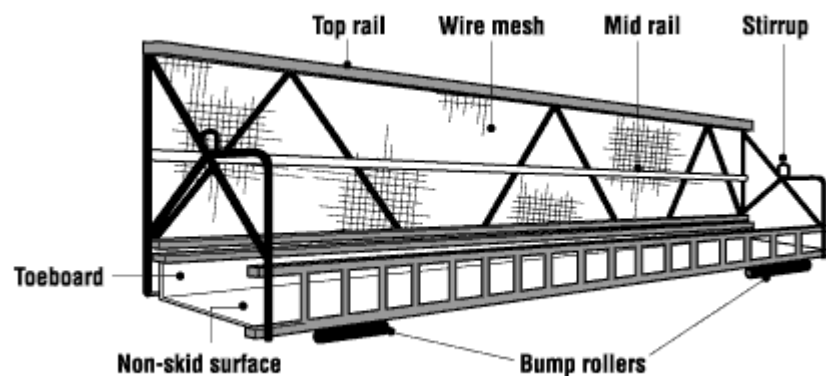
[What should you do when working on a suspended platform?](#)

[What should you not do?](#)

What should you do when working on a suspended platform?

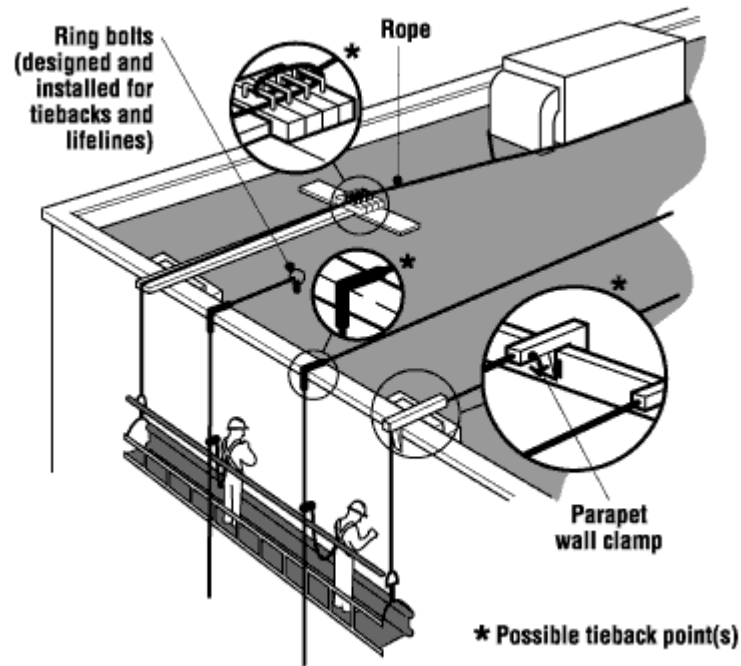
- Make sure that the platform is installed and maintained according to job requirements, safety laws, standards, and the manufacturer's specifications.
- Inspect all equipment before erecting and before each shift.
- Use appropriate fall arrest systems (e.g., a separate safety harness attached to an independent lifeline) for each worker. Maintain lanyard attachment at the highest point possible. When [fall arrest systems](#) are necessary, workers must be appropriately trained before use.
- Make sure that the suspended platform roof beams and attachments are secure.
- Make sure that the roof or parapet wall is structurally sound to support either outriggers or cornice hooks.
- Check for kinked or damaged ropes.
- Secure all ropes at anchor ends.
- Make sure that all safety equipment, stops, override switches, and brakes function properly.
- Prevent contact between welding or grinding equipment and wire safety or suspension ropes.
- Secure hand tools to the platform.
- Make sure that the power source is secured and properly grounded.
- Secure the platform when not in use.
- Make sure that guardrails and toe boards are in place.

- Extend suspension ropes completely to the ground or terminate with wire rope clips to prevent the stage from running off the end of the ropes.
- Test by raising the fully loaded platform a few feet off the ground before going aloft.



What should you not do?

- Do not exceed platform load capacity.
- Do not enter or leave the platform other than at ground level or at other safe access points.
- Do not allow electric cables or connections to lie in gutters or other areas where water can collect.
- Do not work near exposed electrical circuits or equipment.
- Do not join platforms unless they are designed for this purpose.
- Do not use damaged or defective equipment.
- Do not alter, substitute or remove components of the platform.
- Do not use fall arrest systems (e.g., the lifeline) for raising or lowering tools or materials.
- Do not move the work platform unless all workers on it are protected by an appropriate fall arrest system.



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