

# Slips, Trips and Falls

Pocket guide

# Industry Perspective

Slip, trip and fall injuries cost the UK approaching **1 billion pounds** per year.

In 2010 the HSE found that slips, trips and falls cost **40** worker fatalities on average annually. The latest stats available (13/14) show **42** fatalities from slips, trips and falls, eight of which were construction operatives equating to approx **20%**.

In addition to 42 fatalities, the 2013/14 research found that there were over **1.5 million** lost working days caused by slips, trips and falls, as well as over **57%** of major/specified injuries and **36%** of all reportable accidents.

In response to the growing concern about slips, trips and falls in the construction industry and other industries with a high rate of slips, trips and falls, the HSE launched its Shattered Lives campaign in 2010.

Ever since the campaign launched the HSE has been working hard to help raise awareness of the risks and help reduce the number of incidents caused by slips, trips and falls.

# What are Slips, Trips and Falls?

Slips, trips and falls are hard to define as they are any incident in the workplace where there is a stumble or loss of balance for any external reason, this makes them a high priority on the health and safety agenda.

The main causes of slips, trips and falls in the workplace are:

- uneven floor surfaces
- unsuitable floor coverings
- wet floors
- changes in levels
- trailing cables
- poor lighting
- poor housekeeping

# Five-stage risk assessment

**STEP**  
**1**

Look for slip and trip hazards around the workplace. (including floor coverings, uneven floors and trailing cables)

**STEP**  
**2**

Decide who might be harmed and how. Are some groups at risk more than others?

**STEP**  
**3**

Consider the risks. Are there already measures in place to deal with the risks? Are floor coverings suitable for the area?

**STEP**  
**4**

Record findings if you have five or more employees.

**STEP**  
**5**

Regularly review the assessments.

# Slips, Trips and Falls Top Tips

Wear appropriate footwear

1. Check for uneven floor surfaces
2. Look out for warning signs e.g. wet floor
3. Always clean up spillages immediately
4. Use cordless equipment wherever possible – look out for the cordless symbol in the Speedy Catalogue
5. Ensure the working area is well lit



## Slips, Trips and Falls are a significant risk

Slip, trip and fall injuries  
cost the UK approaching

**£1 billion**

Slips, Trips and Falls  
cost employers over

**£512 million**  
in lost production

**Over 1.5 million**

lost working days caused by  
Slips, Trips and Falls. (2013/14)

**42 fatalities**

in 2013/14 caused  
by Slips, Trips and Falls

**36%**

of all reportable accidents are  
due to Slips, Trips and Falls

**57%**

of major/ specified injuries are  
caused by Slips Trips and Falls

# Reduce

Employers have a duty to make sure they protect people in the workplace from the risks of slips, trips and falls but everyone can help to avoid such accidents.

Reducing the risks is usually easy, costs little or no money and often has other benefits such as actually being able to help control the number of incidents that occur.



# Control

Speedy have a number of sales products, hire products and training programs that can help control slips, trips and falls.

Selecting the right tool is essential in preventing slips, trips and falls. Here are a selection of products available.

EX90L Intrinsically  
Safe Light

80/0707



For more products and information visit  
[speedyservices.com/intelligentsafety](https://speedyservices.com/intelligentsafety)

### M18 LED Standlight

22/0034



### Kerb Buddy

08/1094



### LED Smith Light

80/0700



### Anti-Trip Fence Feet

08/0492, 08/0494,  
08/0493



Use cordless equipment where possible to avoid trips, look out for the cordless symbol in the Speedy Catalogue

Call 0345 609 9998

Email [safety@speedyservices.com](mailto:safety@speedyservices.com)

Click [speedyservices.com/intelligentsafety](https://speedyservices.com/intelligentsafety)

