

Fall Protection

Anchors

The ideal for a Fall Protection anchor is immediately above the work area and easily accessible from a location 2m away from the edge. The following photos, from one of our Townhome projects, show the ideal location.



As shown in the photos, this anchor point will be available from the early stages of framing right up to the point where the final railing is installed. The anchor sling is wrapped around the header so it can be reasonably expected to serve as a Fall Restraint anchor point for the full construction cycle once installed.

The requirement for a Fall Restraint anchor is the greater of 3.5kN (800 lbs) or 4 times the weight of the worker connected to the anchor

Anchors in this position can be achieved on Townhome and Wood Frame Apartments but do require some additional planning and coordination with the Framing and Siding Contractors.

However, there are times due to the design of a building where positioning such an anchor point is not possible. In that case there are some other solutions.



An anchor installed at the deck door threshold.

This anchor sling is wrapped around the floor joist and comes up through the floor sheathing. As seen in this photo, floor topping and finishing (including hardwood) can be completed while leaving anchor available for work on the deck.



An anchor installed in the common area hallway at the suite entry door.

An anchor point in this location allows the entire unit to be finished while maintaining an anchor for work on the deck. It is installed in the same fashion as the example above and allows the common area hallway to be substantially completed.



An anchor installed at the deck door threshold.

In locations where the above examples are not possible, or the work requiring an anchor is infrequent then reusable anchors can be installed. These can be purchased from any safety supplier and will provide instructions on the correct method of attachment. In this photo the anchor is screwed into the floor joist.

Important Note

With these “floor positioned” anchors it is important to note that the personal fall protection system used must prevent the worker from passing the edge of the deck. Retractable systems cannot be used with these anchors as it is possible for a worker to move past the edge of the deck before the system engages. At the time of this document the only a fixed lanyard or life line & rope grab will work as Fall Restraint with these anchors

Signage

Another component of Fall Protection is keeping workers informed of the hazards and the required protection.

Everyone is probably familiar with the “**Fall Protection Required Past This Point**” sign but sometimes it can help to provide better detail, especially if you have regularly changing conditions.



Signage can also be used to help those using fall protection systems. On a tower there will be workers working on the roof as well as on the exterior. Identifying the vertical lifelines that are part of someone's fall protection system (as shown in the photo below) serves to alert other workers to stay clear of those ropes.

