Tiling Walls | SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT (SWMS)

TASK OR ACTIVITY: Tiling Walls

Business Name:	ABN:	SWMS#
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

THIS SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU OF THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a safe work method statement (SWMS) is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring and compliance of the SWMS as well as reviews and modifications of the SWMS.

Full Name:	Title:	Phone:

ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS SWMS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED	NAME OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND COMMUNICATED TO IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF THIS SWMS
Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be scheduled in accordance with legislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, assess risk to communicate those hazards and then to further take steps to either eliminate or control each hazard.	
If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must stop immediately. Depending on the severity of the incident, a meeting will be called with all workers to amend the SWMS if required. The meeting may also be an educational opportunity.	
Any changes made to the SWMS after an incident or a near miss must be approved by the Person Conducting Business or Undertaking and communicated to all relevant personnel.	
The SWMS must be kept and be available for inspection at least until the work is completed. Where a SWMS is revised, all versions should be kept. If a notifiable incident occurs in relation to which the SWMS relates, then the SWMS must be kept for at least two years from the occurrence of the notifiable incident.	

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS	
Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date SWMS supplied to Project Manager:	

ANY HIGH-RISK CONSTRUCTION WORK BEING CARRIED OUT	
☐ involves a risk of a person falling more than 2 meters	☐ is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping
☐ is carried out on a telecommunication tower	☐ is carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines
☐ involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing	☐ is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services
☐ involves demolition of an element related to the physical integrity of structures	☐ is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere
☐ involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asbestos	☐ involves tilt-up or precast concrete
☐ involves structural alteration or repair that requires temporary support to prevent collapse	☐ is carried out on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor
☐ is carried out in or near a confined space	☐ is carried out in an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant
☐ is carried out in/near a shaft or trench deeper than 1.5 m or tunnel involving use of explosives	☐ is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.
☐ is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.	☐ involves diving work.

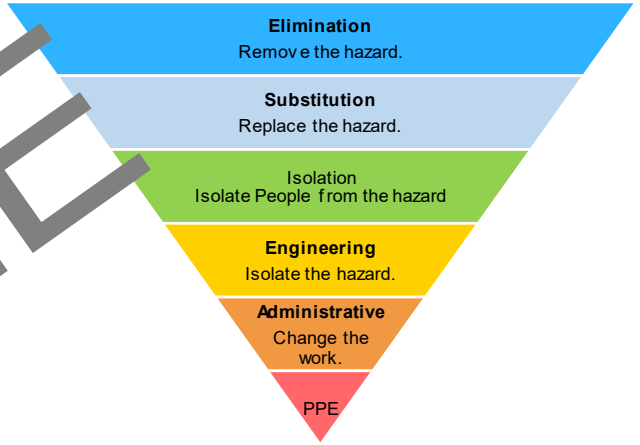
ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINERY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

RISK MATRIX

LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE		
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEE
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review befo work starts.
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	nitor and ke records

Notes on Hierarchy of Controls: Elimination methods are the most effective and preferr en co lling a hazard. Substitution is the second most effective method of controlling a hazard. Engineering by isolation is the most e tive, while Administrative Controls by changing the work is the fourth most effective method. PPE (Personal Prote ve quipm) is the least effective method.

HEIRARCHY OF CONTROLS



PERS NAL P TECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Select the appropriate PPE abo suitable for the equipment used or the job task being performed (if applicable).

FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	HEARING PROTECTION	EY PROTECTION	RESPIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
											
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Other PPE Required:

Permit or Licenses Requirements	Mandatory Qualifications and Training

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	Trip hazards, exposure to dangerous chemicals	2M, 3H	- Conduct a pre-start safety briefing to discuss potential trip hazards and proper handling procedures for chemicals. - Ensure all tools and materials are stored neatly away from walkways to minimise trips. - Clearly mark the work area with warning signs to alert others to trip hazards and chemical exposure risks. - Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, and masks to workers handling chemicals. - Use non-slip mats or surfaces in areas prone to spills to prevent slipping. - Assign a designated area for mixing and handling chemicals to contain exposure risks. - Regularly inspect the work area to ensure that there are no objects on the floor that could be tripped over. - Keep Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) accessible on-site for all chemicals being used, and ensure workers understand their contents. - Implement proper ventilation systems in enclosed areas to disperse chemical fumes. - Train workers in safe lifting techniques to avoid injuries when moving heavy tiles and related materials. - Allow sufficient time for floor surfaces to dry after cleaning or applying primers to reduce slip risks. - Instruct workers to report any hazardous conditions immediately so they can be addressed promptly.	1L, 2M
2. Equipment Set-up	Electrical hazards, manual handling injuries	3H, 2M	- Conduct a pre-work safety briefing to ensure all team members are aware of potential electrical hazards and manual handling risks. - Confirm that all electrical tools and equipment have been tested, tagged, and deemed safe for use according to Australian standards. - Use cordless or battery-operated tools where possible to minimise the risk of electrical shock. - Ensure all extension cords are routed safely away from water sources and sharp edges and do not pose a trip hazard. - Inspect power outlets and plugs for any signs of damage before connecting tools or equipment. - Utilise proper lifting techniques, keeping the back straight and bending at the knees, when handling heavy tiles or equipment. - Provide mechanical aids such as trolleys or lifters to assist with moving heavy or awkward materials, reducing strain on workers. - Implement a buddy system, ensuring two-person lifts where necessary for heavy items to distribute the load and reduce the risk of injury.	2M, 1L

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			- Arrange the work area to ensure minimal twisting, reaching, or awkward postures are required when setting up equipment. - Establish a clean and organised workspace free [illegible] unnecessary clutter that could contribute to slips, trips, and falls. - Provide adequate personal protective eq[illegible]ment (PPE) [illegible]cluding gloves and appropriate footwear with non-slip soles. - Educate workers on the importance of takin[illegible]gular breaks t[illegible]avoid fatigue, which can lead to increased risk of both electri[illegible]l accidents and p[illegible]sical inju[illegible]. - Clearly mark and isolate any a[illegible]as under setup to [illegible]nt accidental entry by unauthorized personnel, thereby reducing th[illegible]f elec[illegible]al contact or ma[illegible]ual handling incidents. - Ensure em[illegible]ency proce[illegible]res a[illegible]n plac[illegible]nd all personnel are aware of how to respond to an electrical inci[illegible]t, includin[illegible]location [illegible]the nearest defibrillator and first aid kit.	
3. Surface Preparation	Dust inhalation, slip hazards	3H,	- Use [illegible] extract[illegible]tools and equipment to minimize airborne dust during surface preparation. - Provi[illegible] wo[illegible]ers wit[illegible]ersonal protective equipment, such as P2 or N95 respirators, to protect against dust inh[illegible]latio[illegible] - [illegible]plem[illegible]t a w[illegible]method of surface preparation where feasible to reduce dust generation. - Place[illegible]ning signs and barriers around the work area to alert and prevent unauthorized personnel from [illegible]tering. - E[illegible]sure proper ventilation by opening windows or using mechanical ventilation systems to dissipate dust. - Damp down surfaces before sanding or cleaning to catch dust particles effectively. - Keep the work area clean and free from debris to minimize slip hazards. - Provide non-slip footwear for workers to reduce the risk of slips when working on wet or dusty surfaces. - Train workers in safe handling practices and hazard awareness related to surface preparation tasks. - Regularly inspect the work area and equipment to ensure they are in good condition and functioning correctly, addressing any issues immediately.	2M, 2M
4. Adhesive Application	Risks from inhalation, skin contact with adhesive	3H, 2M	[redacted]	2M, 1L

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
5. Tile Placement	Cutting injuries, heavy lifting	3H,3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
6. Grout Application	Skin irritation, eye damage from grout particles	3H, 2M	[redacted]	2M, 1L
7. Cutting Tiles	Flying fragments, noise induced hearing loss	4A, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
8. Clean-up	Slippery surfaces, sharp objects disposal risks	2M	[redacted]	1L, 1L
9. Final Inspection	Fall hazards, tripping over leftover materials	2M, 2M	[redacted]	1L, 1L

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
10. Maintenance Work	Exposure to hazard[redacted]ubstances electrical hazards	4A, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M
11. Transportation of Materials	Heavy lifting, dropped object risks	3H, 3H		2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
12. Waste Disposal	Injury from sharp objects, exposure to hazardous substances	4A, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
13. Demolition of old tiles	Injuries from falling [redacted] dust inhalation	3H, 4A	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
14. Mixing Adhesive and Grout	Skin contact with strong substances, inhalation hazards	3H, 2M	[redacted]	1L, 2M
15. Tools Maintenance	Cut injuries, electrical hazards	3H, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
16. Storage of Materials	Manual handling injuries, tip-over risks	3H, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
17. Installation of Tile Trim	Cutting injuries, fall hazards	3H, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M
18. Power Tool Use	Noise-induced hearing loss, electric shock	4A, 3H	[redacted]	2M, 2M

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
19. Ventilation setting	Exposure to airborne pa[redacted] insufficient oxygen levels	3H, 2M	[redacted]	1L, 1L

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
			[redacted]	
20. Disassembling Equipment	Electrical hazards, tripping over cables	3H, 2M	[redacted]	2M, 1L

EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE IN ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
Legislation QLD: https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws
Codes of Practice QLD: https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice
Legislation ACT: https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations
Codes of Practice ACT: https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practi

New South Wales
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017
Legislation NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation
Codes of Practice NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-of-all-codes-of-practice

Northern Territory
Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 201
Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 20
Legislation NT: https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-law
Codes of Practice NT: https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/forms-and-resources/codes-of-practice

South Australia
Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (S
Legislation for SA: https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation
Codes of Practice for SA: https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs

Tasmania
Work Health and Safety Act 2012
Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012
Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012
Legislation for TAS: https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations
Codes of Practice for TAS: https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.

Victoria
Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017
Legislation VIC: https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations
Codes of Practice VIC: https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice

Western Australia
Work Health and Safety Act 2020
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022
Legislation Western Australia: https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation
Codes of Practice WA: https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice

Safe Work Australia Links
Law and Regulation (All States): https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation
Model Codes of Practice: https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

SIGNATORIES OF THE SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT

The signed and dated personnel listed below have cooperated in the consultation and development of this Safe Work Method Statement which has been approved by the Person/s Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU). In signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual acknowledges and confirms that they have read this SWMS in full, having raised any questions for items on this Safe Work Method Statement that require clarification, and confirms that they are competent, skilled and knowledgeable for the task assigned to them. Every person acknowledges that they have received the relevant training and qualifications where required, before carrying out any work contained in this Safe Work Method Statement. By signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual agrees to work safely, to follow any safe work instructions which are provided, and agrees to use all Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.

Worker Name	Signature	Date

SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

The SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains effective and must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are revised. The review process should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors and subcontractors who may be affected by the operation of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.

When the SWMS has been revised the PCBU must ensure that all persons involved with the work are advised that a revision has been made and how they can access the revised SWMS, including all persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a result of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties consistently with the revised SWMS. All workers that will be involved in the work must be provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS.

The SWMS must be monitored regularly for the effectiveness of ensuring hazard controls are effective in reducing the risk of incidents, keeping the workplace safe for all personnel. The person responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Safe Work Method Statement should employ a multi-faceted approach which includes but is not limited to:

1. Spot Checks.
2. Consultation with workers, contractors and sub-contractors.
3. Internal audits on a continual basis.

An approach of continuous improvement, promptly recording inconsistencies or deficiencies, followed up by immediate corrective action and consultation with all relevant personnel ensures that the PCBU is consistently developing ever-improving systems of safe work principles.

REVIEW NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NAME							
INITIALS							
DATE							

SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT REVIEW CHECKLIST

This Safe Work Method Statement Review Checklist is to be followed and used upon initial development of the SWMS to help ensure that all steps have been adequately taken before work commences. Think of this document as an internal audit review checklist before commencing work, and may form part of a Toolbox Talk (safety meeting) and may be used as an opportunity for education and training.

ITEMS WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE SWMS	COMPLETED	COMMENTS
The company details have been entered, including the project name and address.	☒	
All relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.	☒	
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.	☐	
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	☒	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	☒	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	☒	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	☒	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS.	☒	
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) column completed.	☒	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective solutions.	☒	
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the SWMS for the implementation of control measures.	☒	
Permit or licenses requirements specified, such as Hot Work, Electrical Work, Work at Heights etc.	☒	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be used	☒	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed are noted on the SWMS.	☒	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, training or skills required to perform the work.	☒	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.	☒	
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	☒	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	☒	

REVIEWED BY		**DATE REVIEWED**	
SIGNATURE		**DATE COMPLETED**	