

KCA TOOL BOX TALK

Hammer



TEAMWORK
IMPROVES SAFETY

Signatures

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The hammer is one of the most commonly used tools in construction. Although it's low-tech, it is a common cause of injuries and accidents.

Here is an Example: Kyle, a roofer in Minnesota, was on the roof of a house he was helping to build. When he happened to sneeze while hammering, he lost control of the hammer and ended up breaking the piece of wood he was working with. Part of the wood splintered off and flew into his eye. He had to have surgery to remove the splintered wood.

1. What could Kyle have done to prevent this incident from occurring?
2. Do you know anyone who has been injured by improper hammer use? If so, what caused the injury?

Preventing Injuries from Improper Hammer Use:

- Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes.
- Make sure the hammer's handle is safe; be sure it is not loose or damaged.
- Make sure the area around you is clear and that no one is standing behind you.
- Use the right type of hammer for the specific job.
 - Never strike hardened steel surfaces with a steel hammer.
 - Use a claw hammer for driving nails.
 - Use a soft metal hammer or one with a plastic, wood, or rawhide head when striking steel surfaces.

For more information visit OSHA Standard: 1926.300

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Teamwork Improves Safety!

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