

Prevention First

The key to preventing potential risks and hazards is being aware of how your personal safety may be compromised, then taking simple steps to protect it at all times.

At Defence Housing Australia (DHA) we care about your work health and safety while on residential construction sites.

Here are a few tips to protect your personal safety when working at heights:

STOP

- Do a visual check to identify issues where you could fall - what are the risks and what could cause you harm?
- Undertake a risk assessment.
- Implement a safe work method statement (SWMS) to assist you and your workers in controlling potential risk.

THINK

- Think about others and the risk that your work may pose to them.
- Can you install the trusses from the ground? If not, are you are protected in the event of a fall?
- Is there a supervisor appointed to oversee the work?
- Is correct bracing in place?

DO

- Ensure you understand the SWMS for the task.
- Ensure you have read, understood and apply Safe Work Australia's Code of Practice, for *Preventing Falls in Housing Construction*.
- Ensure all perimeter scaffold or fall protection is complete with all rails in place
- Use ladders for access and ensure they are secure.
- Carry our work in a safe manner that minimises risk to your health and safety.



For guidance on how to work safely from heights, contact the work health and safety regulator in your state or territory.