



SAFETY TIPS

Scissor Lift Safety

A scissor lift is a portable, hydraulic-powered lift with a work platform that can be raised into the air directly above the base. Scissor lifts are a valuable piece of equipment that allow workers to reach work areas that may be difficult or cumbersome to access by other means such as ladders or scaffolding. However, scissor lifts can also be dangerous if not properly maintained and serviced, used inappropriately or if used by untrained workers. Many scissor lifts are covered under the [OSHA Scaffolding Standard](#). The following are some safety tips for the use of scissor lifts.

Training

- Only employees who have been properly trained and evaluated may operate scissor lifts. Training must be specific to the type and manufacturer of the scissor lift to be used. This training should include load capacity; requirements and limitations of the manufacturer; procedures for dealing with dangers and hazards involving falling from the lift, falling objects, and electricity.

Preventative Maintenance and Inspections

- Lift must be inspected prior to each use. Any safety defect such as hydraulic or other fluid leak, damaged tires, defective controls, steering, lights, or horn must be reported for immediate repair and should not be used until repaired by authorized person.
- Survey entire work area before operating lift. Ensure there are no drop offs, uneven surfaces, holes, floor/ground obstructions such as debris or materials that may create an unsafe condition.

Safe Operation

- Do not exceed rated load. Do not use while lift is on truck, forklift, or other device.
- Do not reach or lean out or extend beyond the limit of the guardrail at any time.
- Do not use ladder, scaffolding, or other devices to increase size or working height of platform.
- Do not use near moving vehicles or cranes.
- Do not use without guardrails, mid-rails, chain, or bar in place. Do not stand or sit on guardrails.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations and safety policies.
- Fully lower the platform before exiting. Follow manufacturer's shut down process.
- If you are finished with the scissor lift clear all tools and materials.
- Operator must inspect all overhead areas in the work area to ensure there are no overhead obstructions with which the lift may come in contact, including but not limited to power lines, trees, pipes, canopies, and other structures and obstacles.
- Operators should maintain a minimum clearance of at least ten feet (10') from the nearest overhead power lines.
- Scissor lifts should not be raised on uneven or soft surfaces or on sloped ground.