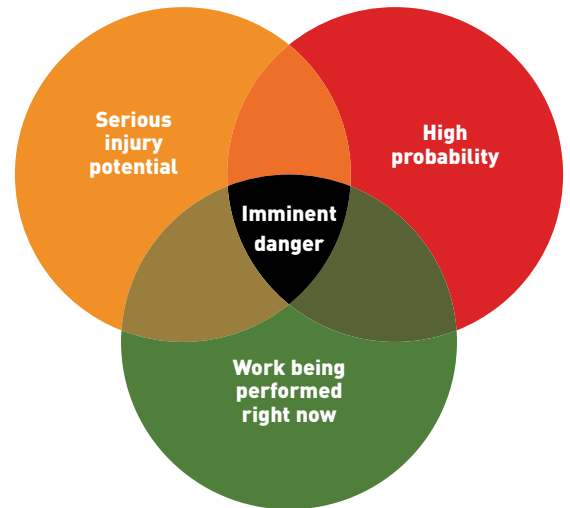


# Imminent danger hazard identification checklist

Imminent danger is any condition or practice that could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious harm immediately, or before the danger can be eliminated. The threat is immediate, and the hazard could cause severe injury or fatality right away. All imminent danger hazards can result in a serious injury or fatality (SIF), but not all SIF hazards are imminent dangers. You may have time to control a SIF hazard, but imminent danger means you must act now or someone will get hurt.

Use this checklist to help identify imminent danger hazards. Customize it to specific worksites and tasks and use in combination with training and hazard recognition. This list does not include every possible imminent threat hazard.



## If imminent danger is found, act immediately:

1. Stop work right away. Do not allow work to continue until the danger is addressed.
2. Remove employees from the hazard and secure the area.
3. Notify supervisors and safety leadership.
4. Correct or control the hazard. Stop operations until controls are in place.
5. Document and communicate the hazard, actions taken, and any follow-up steps.

Structural and physical hazards	
	<b>Fall hazards:</b> working at height or edges without guardrails or fall protection
	<b>Open floor holes</b> without covers or guardrails in high use areas
	<b>Unstable ladder</b> over four feet high with improper ladder use
	<b>Unshored trench</b> with workers inside
	<b>Unstable walls</b> during demolition or construction
	<b>Damaged or unstable scaffold</b> with workers on the platform
	<b>Heavy equipment</b> operating with visible mechanical failure (example: crane with frayed cable)

Electrical hazards	
	Working on <b>energized circuits or equipment</b> without lockout/tagout
	<b>Exposed energized wiring</b> within reach
	<b>Downed power lines</b> that are not barricaded or de-energized in employee work areas
	Accessing or operating a <b>corroded electrical box</b> in a wet environment
	<b>Overloaded circuits</b> showing signs of arcing or overheating
	Electrical work with potential for <b>arc flash</b> and wearing flammable clothing instead of arc rated PPE
	<b>Digging</b> in areas with known electrical hazards or <b>working at heights</b> near power lines

Hazardous atmospheres	
	<b>Confined space entry</b> without adequate ventilation. Failing to test for toxic gases before entry
	<b>Active gas leak</b> in an occupied area
	<b>Uncontrolled chemical releases</b> that produce toxic vapors/fumes
	<b>Combustible dust clouds</b> in enclosed spaces (such as a grain elevator)
	<b>Asbestos or silica dust</b> cloud released during cutting or grinding with no respiratory protection or controls
	<b>Storage of large amounts of corrosive materials</b> with visibly leaking containers, no ventilation in occupied areas or potential vehicle contact.
Machine and equipment hazards	
	<b>Missing machine guards</b> on active equipment
	<b>Clearing jammed equipment</b> or working on equipment without lockout/tagout
	<b>Vehicle or equipment</b> moving at high speeds in congested areas or with defective brakes
	<b>Unstable or unsecured hydraulic lift</b> with workers underneath

Environmental and health hazards	
	<b>Spraying toxic chemicals</b> without respiratory protection or other controls
	<b>Welding in confined space</b> without appropriate ventilation
	<b>Aggressive, uncontrolled animal(s)</b> in workplace
	<b>Sewage leak</b> in occupied areas without PPE or containment
	<b>Working near unstable trees</b> (leaning or tilting, cracks, hanging limbs, soil heaving around base, fungal growth, or previous damage)
Other potential imminent dangers	

### Inspection notes

Date of inspection: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector name: \_\_\_\_\_

Observed hazards: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional corrective actions taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who to notify (supervisor/site lead, safety committee, SAIF consultant, others?): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_