

Forklifts and pedestrians: sharing the floor

Pedestrians and lift trucks share space in most warehouses. A loaded truck cannot stop quickly or swerve, and the operator's view is often limited.

Key points

- Operators must inspect the lift truck before it is first operated on a shift and report defects. The employer keeps a defect record for at least 2 years.
- Pedestrians: use marked walkways, never walk under raised forks, and make eye contact with the operator before crossing a travel path.
- Operators: sound the horn at blind corners and doorways, slow down, and look in the direction of travel.
- Keep loads low and stable. A load that could shift and make the truck unstable must be restrained.
- Keep a clear distance from the truck. Do not stand between a truck and a fixed object such as a rack or wall.
- Only trained and authorized workers operate lift trucks. Operator training must meet Clause 6 of the CSA B335 standard cited in the Regulation.

Ask the crew

- Where do pedestrians and trucks cross on our site?
- Which corners or doors have poor visibility?
- Who is authorized to operate trucks on this shift?

Where this comes from

OHS Regulation, s. 16.3 (inspection before use) (Part 16 Mobile Equipment)

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-16-mobile-equipment>

OHS Regulation, s. 16.43 (lift trucks, CSA B335) (Part 16 Mobile Equipment)

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-16-mobile-equipment>

Your site's own procedures and the equipment manufacturer's instructions always apply. This sheet is general information, not legal advice.

Sign-off sheet

Date: _____ Location: _____ Presented by: _____

Name (print)	Signature	Date