

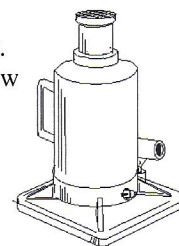
Job Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Topic 357: Safe Use of Jacks

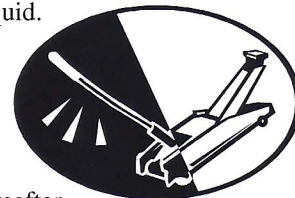
**Introduction:** Jacks have been in use for many years as a device for lifting heavy loads. There are many different types and sizes of jacks used to lift everything from cars to houses, but all jacks have common safety requirements which must be followed to protect personnel and loads from injury and damage. Following are requirements and guidelines for the safe use of lever and ratchet, screw, and hydraulic jacks:

- **Employers must ensure** that all personnel involved in the use of jacks are properly trained in their safe use and proper jack operation for the job assigned.
- **Personnel must** keep clear of the jacks and the load during lifting to prevent injury in the event of jack failure or slippage.
- **Lateral bracing** may be required to stabilize loads from shifting as the load is raised.
- **Keep loads level** as they are raised. If using multiple jacks, ensure that all jacks are raised at the same rate.
- **Jacks must be** kept clean and free of oil or grease.
- **Use the correct handle** for the jack. Do not use extensions to increase leverage or the jack may be overloaded.
- **Do not raise** the load to height and *then* crib. Have cribbing blocks on hand and positioned to quickly crib the load as it is being raised.
- **Ensure that** the jack's lifting cap maintains solid, level, and stable contact with the load to be lifted. Do not place the cap on an angled surface or where the cap does not make solid, level, and stable contact.
- **When raising a vehicle** on a jack, ensure that the wheels are blocked and the emergency brake is set. Allow no one in, or on, a vehicle or load while it is elevated.
- **Do not allow** bystanders in the vicinity or on a raised vehicle or load.



**General requirements OSHA § 1926.305 & § 1910.244:**

- **The manufacturer's** rated capacity must be legibly marked on all jacks and must never be exceeded.
- **All jacks** must have a positive stop to prevent over travel or overextension.
- **When it is necessary** to provide a firm foundation, the base of the jack must be blocked or cribbed. Where there is possibility of slippage of the metal cap of the jack off of the load, a wood block must be placed between the cap and the load.
- **Operation and maintenance:**
  - **After the load** has been raised, it must be immediately cribbed, blocked, or otherwise secured.
  - **Hydraulic jacks** exposed to freezing temperatures must be treated with an adequate antifreeze liquid.
  - **All jacks** must be lubricated at regular intervals.
  - **Each jack** must be thoroughly inspected at intervals dependent on the service conditions, but not less frequently than the following:
    - \* For constant or intermittent use at one locality - once every 6 months.
    - \* For jacks sent out of shop for special work - when sent out and when returned.
    - \* For a jack subjected to an abnormal load or shock - immediately before and immediately thereafter.
- **Repair or replacement** parts shall be examined for possible defects.
- **Jacks which are** under repair or defective must be tagged accordingly, and not used until repairs are made.



**Conclusion:** Jacks are indispensable tools for lifting and positioning loads. The weight of these loads and pressure applied to the jacks pose safety hazards that must be respected. See Tailgate/Toolbox Safety Training Topics - **328: Inflatable Air Jack Safety** & **342: Cribbing and Blocking Safety** for additional information related to safe use of jacks

### Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Safety Violations: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employee Signatures:**

*(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)*


*These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.*