

Masonry Work From a Mast Climber JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A masonry crew will use a handed-over twin-mast climbing work platform to build a released exterior masonry wall. The equipment supplier's approved configuration governs platform loads and travel. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- The foundation, mast ties, platform arrangement, load chart and emergency descent method are established for this installation.
- Authorized operators and users work within the approved guardrail and loading arrangement.
- Erection, dismantling, mast-tie alteration and rescue by untrained personnel are excluded.

Questions before work

- Where does the configuration-specific chart permit masonry stock and people?
- Who inspects the platform before each shift and after relevant changes?
- How will a fault, power loss or medical emergency be managed at height?

Task Hazard Control

1 Accept the platform handover

Hazard: An incomplete installation or unsuitable support can cause collapse.

Control: Masonry lead and competent person confirm the configuration, support, mast ties and handover documentation. Obtain the supplier's operating and load instructions; keep use on hold for unresolved installation findings.

Verification: Competent person records the pre-use inspection for the actual configuration.

Reasoning: A standard frame-scaffold handover does not describe a powered mast platform.

2 Load within the chart

Hazard: Concentrated block or mortar loads can overload the platform or its extensions.

Control: Place stock only in the chart's permitted zones and account for workers, tools and mortar. Coordinate loading with the operator; do not infer equal capacity across platform sections.

Verification: Operator checks total load and its distribution before movement.

Reasoning: Load placement matters as well as total weight.

3 Check gates and travel clearance

Hazard: An open loading gate or obstruction can cause a fall or crushing during travel.

Control: Close required protection, clear the complete travel path and use the specified gate and interlock arrangement. Keep workers away from the building/platform pinch zone and retain protection during loading transitions.

Verification: Operator verifies gates, travel route and people's positions before motion.

Reasoning: A stationary working gap becomes a moving crush zone.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Raise and work at the selected level

Hazard: Unexpected motion, dropped stock or reaching beyond protection can injure workers.

Control: Authorized operator moves the platform under its instructions and agreed communication. Work at the suitable height with protection intact; restrain materials and maintain the exclusion zone below.

Verification: Operator and masonry lead monitor platform response and work positions.

Reasoning: Positioning the platform can reduce reaching without changing its approved configuration.

5 Respond to faults and weather

Hazard: A stalled platform, failed control or excessive wind can strand or expose the crew.

Control: Stop for abnormal movement or limits exceeded. Use the prescribed emergency lowering and rescue arrangements with trained roles; do not defeat interlocks, improvise climbing or alter mast ties to restore use.

Verification: Operator communicates the fault and competent person determines the release needed.

Reasoning: Fault recovery is a separate equipment procedure.

6 Park and hand over

Hazard: Unsecured stock or unreported faults can expose another shift.

Control: Park in the instructed position, secure against unauthorized use and weather, and transfer load and defect status. Keep defective equipment unavailable pending proper correction and release.

Verification: Outgoing lead confirms platform and stock condition at handover.

Reasoning: Shift close must preserve the next crew's configuration knowledge.

Pause and reassess

- Missing handover, damaged mast/tie or uncertain load distribution.
- Open protection, travel obstruction or abnormal controls.
- Weather limits, fault response or emergency descent arrangements change.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Work carefully and wear PPE.

More useful: Close required protection, clear the complete travel path and use the specified gate and interlock arrangement. Keep workers away from the building/platform pinch zone and retain protection during loading transitions.

Needs improvement: Check that everything is ready.

More useful: Masonry lead and competent person confirm the configuration, support, mast ties and handover documentation. Obtain the supplier's operating and load instructions; keep use on hold for unresolved installation findings.

Decisions that change the analysis

May the crew shift a mast tie to reach a wall detail?

No. Mast ties are part of the installation's stability system. Any alteration requires the authorized design, specialist procedure, inspection and new use release; this user-work analysis does not cover that change.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Identify the actual equipment and work boundaries, responsible people, applicable criteria, inspection findings and open actions. Resolve changes with affected crews and obtain required project authorization before work.

Training needs

- Mast-climber model and installation-specific operator/user instruction, including emergency descent.
- Scaffold role training, chart-based masonry loading and falling-object controls.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

References and adaptation

OSHA Mast climbers scaffold guidance

<https://www.osha.gov/etools/scaffolding/supported/mast-climbers>

OSHA 1926.451 Scaffold requirements

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.451>

OSHA 1926.454 Scaffold training

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.454>

References reviewed October 9, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This instructional example supplies no actual inspection results, signatures or work approval.