

Rolling Scaffolds: Move, Lock, Recheck

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Why this matters

A short move changes the ground, clearance and access beneath a rolling scaffold. The last working position does not establish readiness at the next one.

Objective: Verify the move and the new working position before access.

Key hazards or failure points

Tipping; unexpected rolling; holes; overhead contact; unsecured components; unplanned riding.

Practical controls

- Plan movement using the actual scaffold instructions, configuration and required competent-person oversight. Choose an unoccupied move for this briefing.
- Dismount using approved access. Clear the route and control nearby traffic; use the permitted moving method and stabilization.
- At the destination, establish level support, locked wheels and required access and protection before anyone climbs.

Verify It in the Field

From safe ground, compare the whole route and destination with the plan. Resolve holes, slopes, obstructions and overhead hazards before moving.

Have the designated trained person verify caster attachment, bracing and locks under the instructions. Do not shove an occupied scaffold to test it.

Confirm the required competent-person inspection and destination checks. Record defects, corrections and release; a previous tag does not establish current condition.

Stop and reassess

Hold movement or access for uncertain support, a failed lock, damaged parts or changed clearance. Correct and recheck before use.

Ask the crew

1. What changes at the next position?
2. How will we prevent rolling while working?
3. Who confirms readiness after the move?

Use this HOP tool — Task preview: Before unlocking, have one person describe the route and another describe the new working position. Identify what could tip or roll the scaffold. Agree who verifies support, locks and access after movement, and keep access held until those results are confirmed.

Sources: OSHA 1926.452; OSHA 1926.451; DOE Vol. 2, pp. 6–7. HOP concepts adapted from DOE-HDBK-1028-2009, Vol. 2 (June 2009). No claim to original U.S. Government work; no government endorsement implied.

Free next step: JHA/JSA planning and field-verification worksheet

Expanded guidance and separate forms: toddjeromejenkins.com/toolbox-talks/rolling-scaffolds-move-lock-recheck