

## Fall Protection in Construction

# OHBA Safety Pages

### Fall from Roof

A Roofer was attaching new shingles to the roof surface when he lost his balance. He slid down the roof striking the slide guard. The slide guard was not properly installed; size and nailing deficiencies. The Roofer fell 13' hitting the ground below. Roofer suffered severe injuries that included a hospital stay. Also noted in the accident investigation was that his lanyard was too long, thus allowing him to strike the ground.

### Slide-guard systems

A slide-guard system prevents workers from sliding down a sloped roof. The system, which consists of a slide guard (typically nominal 2 x 6 inch lumber) and at least two roof brackets, must be installed under the supervision of a competent person. Roof brackets are available from roofing equipment suppliers. A slide-guard system can also be made at the work site without manufactured roof brackets. Slide-guard systems cannot be the only means of fall protection on roofs with a ground-to-eave height greater than 25 feet.

### Oregon-OSHA Rule 437-003-3502 (1) – (3)

This rule requires employers that use Slide Guards in their operation to comply with the following:

#### Requirements for slide-guard systems

- Slide-guard systems can be used only on roofs with slopes between 3:12 and 8:12 and ground-to-eave height of 25 feet or less.
- Roofs with slopes between 3:12 and 6:12 must have at least one slide guard below the work area, no closer than six inches from the eave.
- Roofs with slopes between 6:12 and 8:12 must have multiple slide guards no more than eight feet apart vertically. The lowest slide guard must be no closer than six inches from the eave.
- The slide guard closest to the eave must be perpendicular to the roof surface. All other slide guards must be set at an angle not less than 60 degrees to the roof surface.
- Slide guards must provide continuous protection along the length of the roof.

**Manufactured roof brackets.** Install manufactured roof brackets according to the manufacturer's directions. Keep the information at the job site for those who want to review it.

- Each bracket must be six inches or larger and all brackets must bear on a solid surface.
- The horizontal space between brackets cannot exceed the manufacturer's specifications — or eight feet — whichever is less.

**Attaching slide guards.** Use nominal 2 x 6 inch lumber for slide guards. Secure the slide guards to the roof brackets or use another method to prevent them from cantilevering and failing due to material flex.

See Also Attached Slide-Guard Illustration



The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in crew: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

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Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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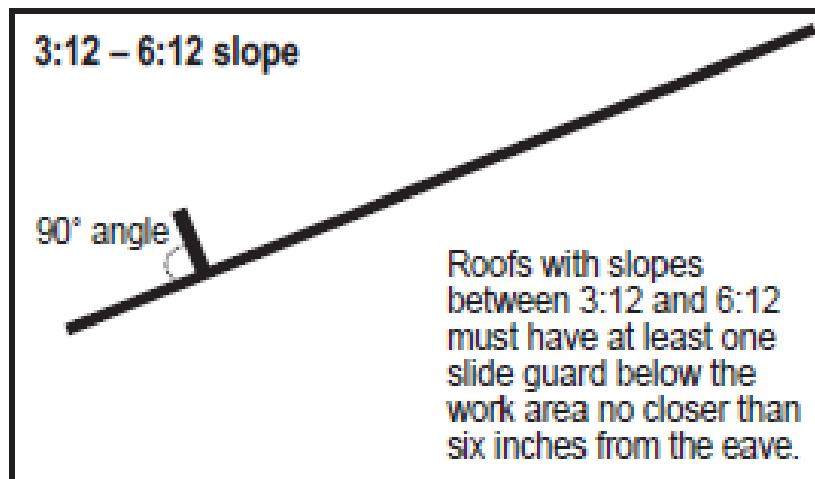
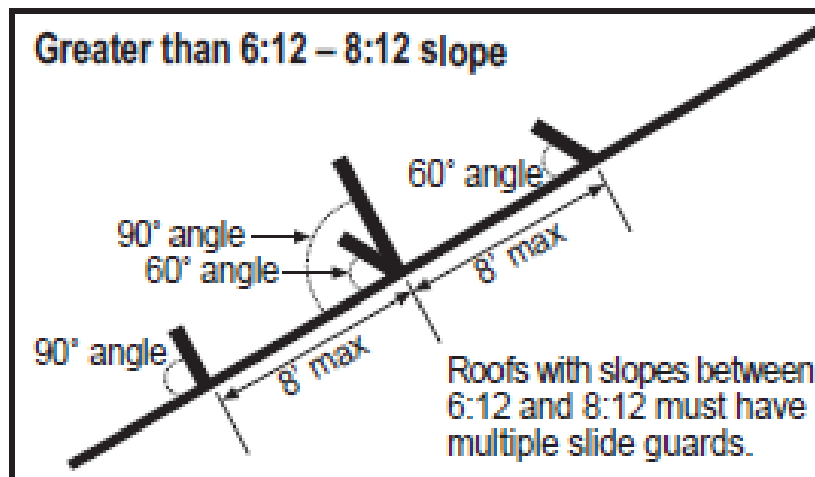
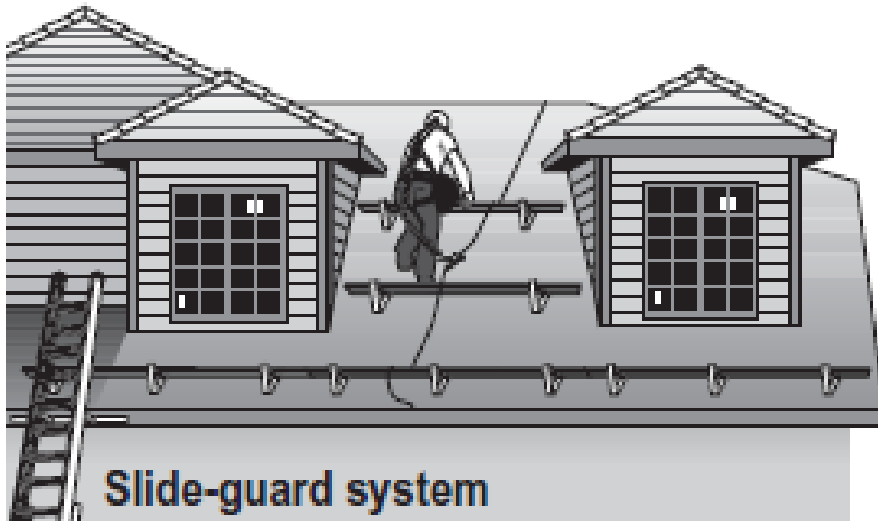
Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
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Supervisor's remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

# Slide-Guard Systems



Oregon OSHA Illustration 440-2824