



Ohio Administrative Code Rule 4123:1-3-19 Demolition.

Effective: June 30, 2025

(A) Reserved.

(B) Definitions.

(1) "Chute" means a trough or tube used to guide and transport sliding objects, material, or debris from a higher to a lower level.

(2) "Demolition" means to dismantle, raze, destroy, or wreck any fixed building or structure.

(C) Preparatory operations.

(1) Except where necessary to maintain a utility service, all steam, gas, sanitary sewer, and electric lines shall be shut off from beyond the building or structure before demolition operations begin. Sanitary sewer connections shall be closed with a plug of concrete or some other suitable material at the entrance to the building, inside the building wall or immediately outside the building wall. Where it is necessary to maintain all or any of the service utilities, the service lines shall be protected from damage. In each case, any utility company which is involved shall be notified in advance.

(2) When employees are required to work within a structure to be demolished which has been damaged by fire, flood, explosion, or other cause, the walls or floor shall be shored or braced.

(3) When any type of hazardous chemicals, gases, explosives, flammable materials, or similarly dangerous substances has been used in the pipes, tanks, or other equipment on the property, the hazardous situation shall be eliminated.

(4) Where a hazard exists from fragmentation of glass, the hazard shall be removed.

(5) During the period before demolition begins in a particular area, wall openings less than forty-two



inches (106.7 centimeters) above the floor and floor, openings, other than material drops, shall be protected.

(D) Material and debris.

(1) Chutes for removal of material and debris.

(a) Chutes provided for the removal of material and debris from areas above the first floor level shall be so constructed that the material and debris cannot leave the chute before reaching the discharge end.

(b) When employees are required to work in, or pass through, the area at the discharge end of chutes, the area shall be guarded, except where the chute discharges into a bin, conveyor, truck, or other container.

(c) Chute openings into which employees dump debris shall be protected by a guardrail approximately forty-two inches (106.7 centimeters) in height, and where material is dumped from mechanical equipment or wheelbarrows, toeboards shall be provided.

(2) Existing elevators used for removal of material and debris.

When existing elevators are used for the removal of material and debris, employees shall be instructed not to load elevators beyond the rated capacity. Material hoists, when used, shall conform to the requirements of paragraph (D)(2) of rule 4123:1-3-07 of the Administrative Code.

(3) Removal of material and debris through floor openings.

Any openings cut in a floor for the disposal of material and debris shall be no larger in size than twenty-five per cent of the aggregate of the total floor area, unless the lateral supports of the removed flooring remain in place. Floors weakened, or otherwise made unsafe, by demolition operations shall be shored to carry safely the intended imposed load from demolition operations.

(4) Storage.



Storage space into which material and debris are dumped shall be blocked off, except for openings necessary for their removal. The openings shall be kept closed at all times when material or debris is not being removed.

(E) Removal of employees.

All employees shall be removed from areas directly below floors or similar elevations prior to the demolition of walls, sections of walls, chimneys, or other parts of the building which may fall in mass upon the upper floors or elevations.

(F) Scaffolding and walkways.

(1) Scaffolding.

In demolishing masonry walls with hand labor, scaffolding shall be provided unless an interior floor is located no more than twelve feet (3.7 meters) below the working level. All scaffolds used in demolition work shall be substantially supported and shall conform to the requirements of rule 4123:1-3-10 of the Administrative Code.

(2) Walkways.

Walkways or ladders shall be provided to enable employees to safely reach or leave any scaffold or wall.

(G) Stairways.

Stairways in use shall be substantially supported.

(H) Removal of steel construction.

(1) Employees not required to work from, or ride, demolition equipment.



Employees shall not be required to work from, or ride, crane loads, hooks, demolition balls, or buckets designed to carry materials.

(2) Dropping structural steel.

Employees shall not be required to drop structural steel except into a specially barricaded or otherwise fully protected area.

(3) Shoring floor.

Prior to erecting any derrick or other hoisting device on any floor support, shoring shall be designed and erected to provide a factor of safety of no less than four.

(I) Demolition balls and clamshell buckets.

(1) Barricading area.

The area affected by demolition balls and clamshell buckets shall be barricaded to protect employees. Only those employees necessary for the performance of these operations shall be required to be in the barricaded area when these operations are being performed.

(2) Attachment and weight.

A demolition ball shall be attached to the load line with a swivel-type connection to prevent twisting of the load line and shall be attached so that the weight cannot become accidentally disconnected. The weight of the demolition ball shall not exceed fifty per cent of the crane's rated load based on the maximum length and angle of the boom.

(3) Protection of windows in crane cabs.

Windows in crane cabs used with balling operations shall be protected with heavy-gauge metal screening having openings large enough that the operator's vision is not obscured, but no larger than two inches (5.1 centimeters), or with safety glass that will provide equivalent protection.



(J) Selective demolition by explosives.

Selective demolition by explosives shall be conducted in accordance with rule 4123:1-3-15 of the Administrative Code.