

# WSH INSIGHTS

## Preventing Slips, Trips and Falls

Slips, trips and falls (STFs) can happen at any workplace. In 2023, three workers died and more than 6,000 workers were injured<sup>1</sup> due to STF accidents, accounting for more than 25% of all workplace injuries in Singapore


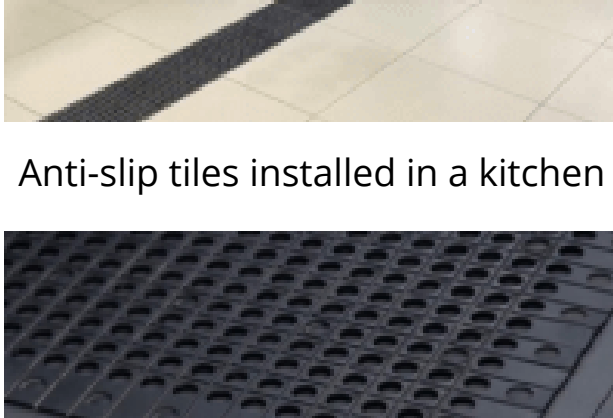

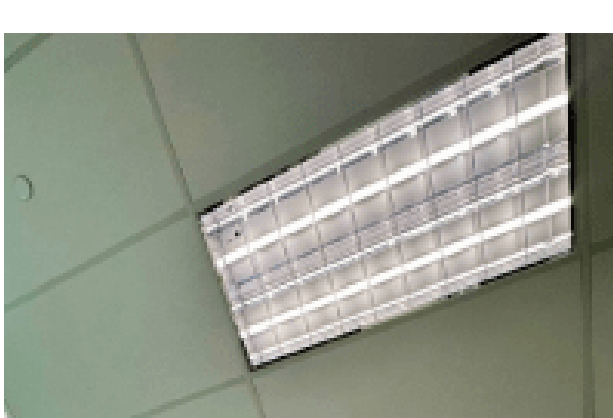
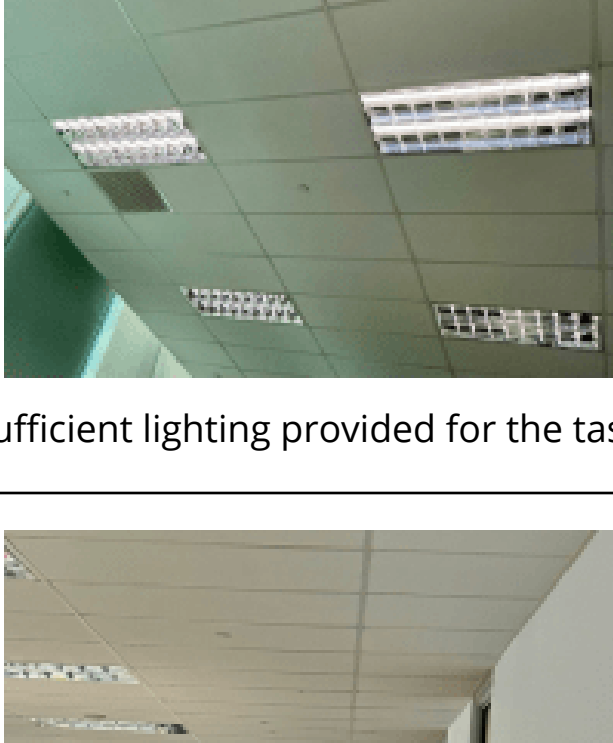


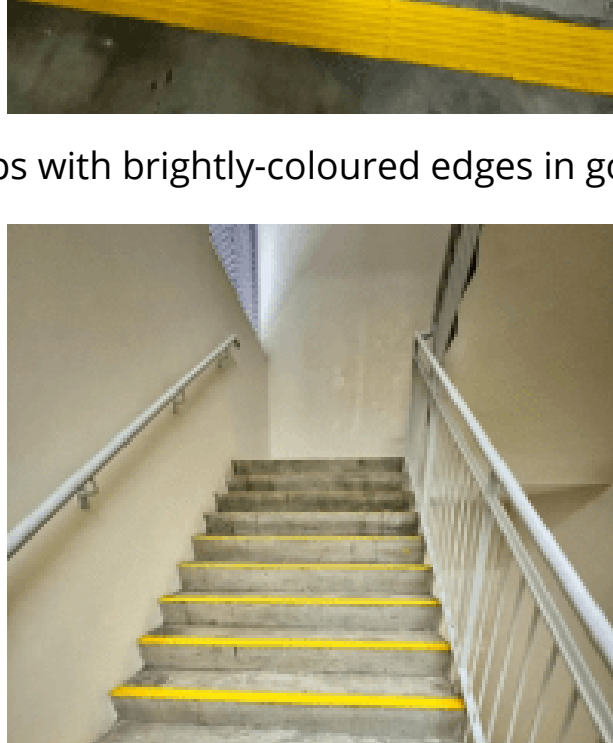

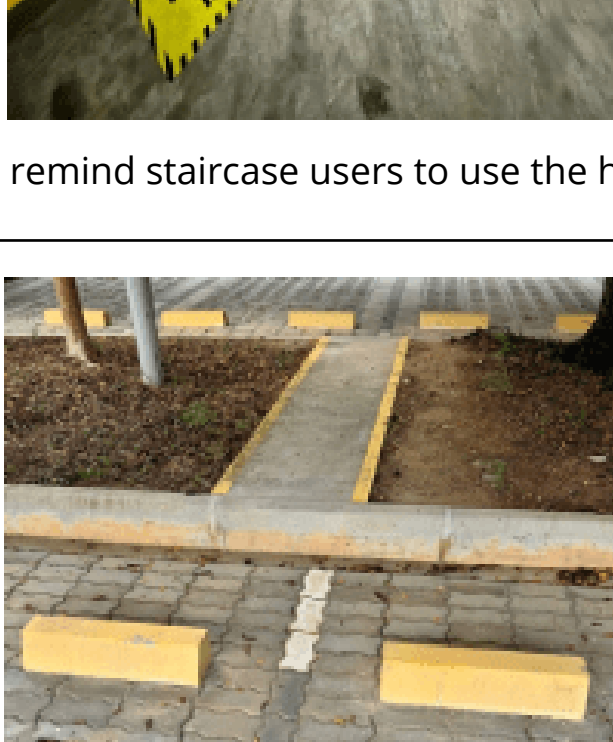
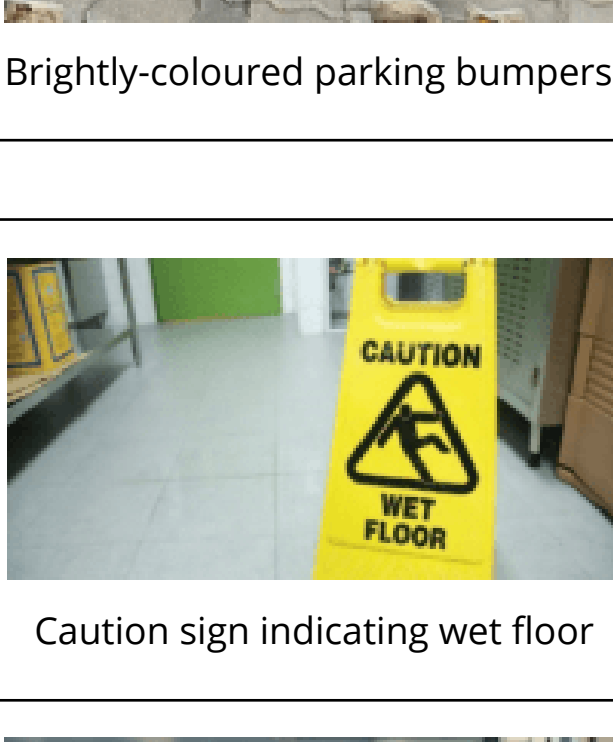


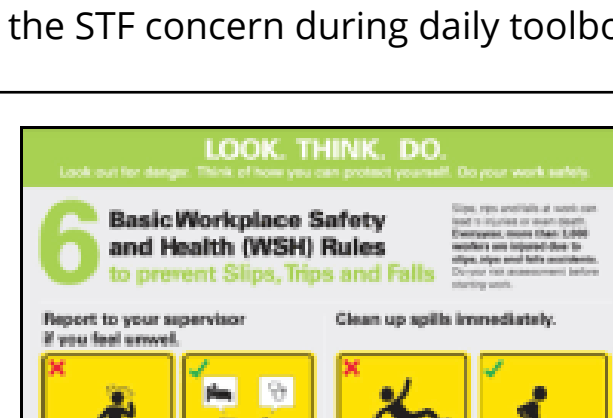
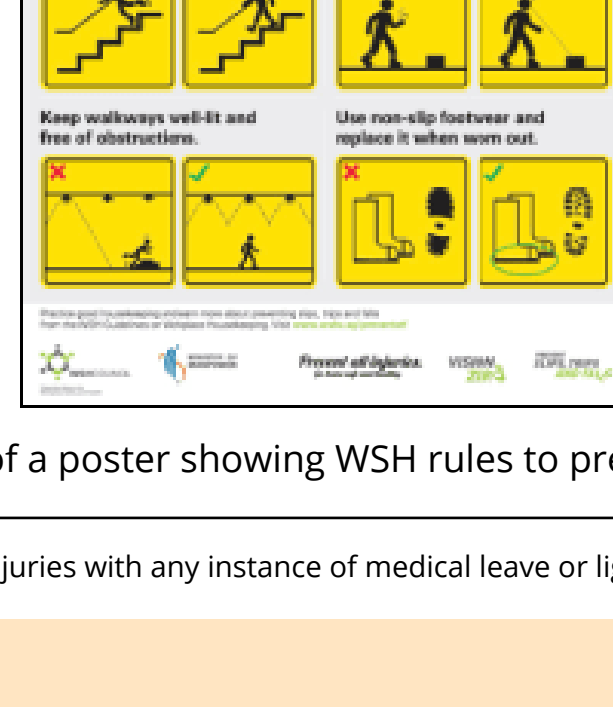
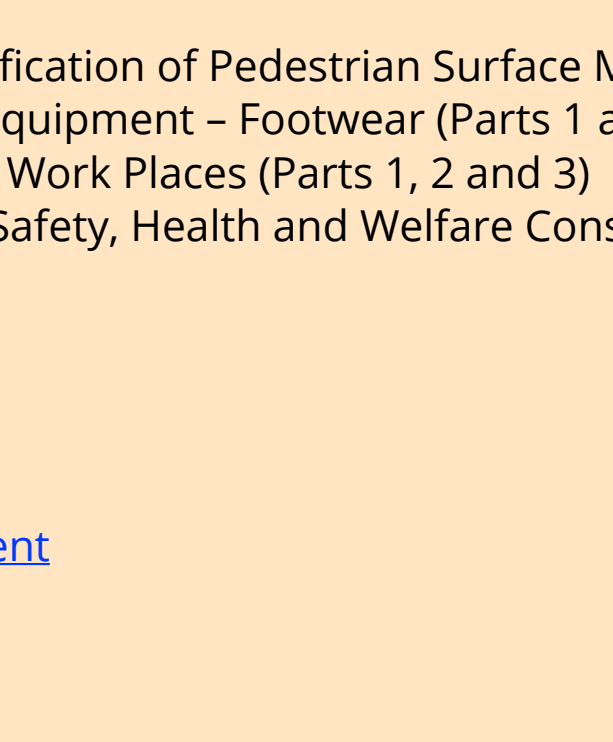
Slips can happen when walking on slopes or surfaces where there is too little friction between footwear and the floor; for example, when stepping on a wet or oily surface. Trips occur when one's foot collides with an object while walking on uneven ground, or due to a misstep while on stairs or steps.



Pictogram signages depicting common scenarios how STFs can occur.

Slips and trips can lead to a fall resulting in a major or minor injury, and even fatality depending on how one falls.

The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) is conducting inspections targeting STF hazards in multiple sectors including the construction, manufacturing, transport and storage, marine, and services sectors. To assist companies to be well prepared for MOM's inspections, the WSH Council has compiled the following good practices adopted by companies to prevent STF incidents:

<b>Take time to check</b>	
Flooring is in good condition	 Even flooring with no broken tiles
Slip-resistant flooring or anti-slip mats are provided/used at wet or oily areas	 Anti-slip tiles installed in a kitchen  Example of an anti-slip mat
Slip-resistant footwear is in good condition	 Footwear inspected every three months
Work areas are well lit	 Sufficient lighting provided for the task
Walkways are kept clear	 No obstructions along office corridors  Walkway free of protruding objects
Staircases are safe for use	 Uniform steps with brightly-coloured edges in good condition  Wide staircases provided with handrails on both sides  Signs to remind staircase users to use the handrails
Kerbs/parking bumpers can be clearly seen	 Brightly-coloured parking bumpers
<b>Take time to clean</b>	
Warning signs are deployed	 Caution sign indicating wet floor
Spills are cleared promptly	 Spills mopped up, then mopped dry
Good housekeeping is maintained	 Tidy storage of construction materials for safer worker and vehicular access
<b>Take time to share</b>	
Workers are briefed on STF hazards and the risk controls in place	 Explaining the STF concern during daily toolbox briefings
Sharing WSH resources for STF - see listing below	 Example of a poster showing WSH rules to prevent STFs

<sup>1</sup>Source: National WSH Statistics Report 2023 based on work injuries with any instance of medical leave or light duties.

### For more information:

**WSH Legislation**  
WSH (Risk Management) Regulations

**Singapore Standard**  
SS 485: 2011 Specification for Slip Resistance Classification of Pedestrian Surface Materials  
SS 513: 2013 Specification for Personal Protective Equipment – Footwear (Parts 1 and 2)  
SS 531: 2006 (2019) Code of Practice for Lighting of Work Places (Parts 1, 2 and 3)  
SS 567: 2011 Code of Practice for Factory Layout – Safety, Health and Welfare Considerations

**Ministry of Manpower**  
[WSH National Statistics Report 2023](#)

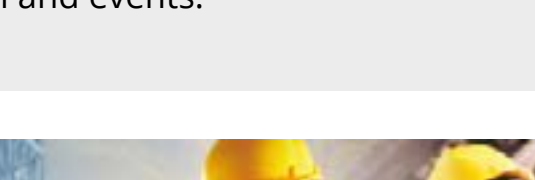
**Workplace Safety and Health Council**  
[Approved Code of Practice on WSH Risk Management](#)  
[Online Topics Page on Slips, Trips and Falls](#)  
[Unsafe and Safe Practices \(Slip, Trips and Falls\)](#)  
[Activity Based Checklist on Slips, Trips and Falls](#)  
[6 Basic WSH Rules to Prevent Slips, Trips and Falls](#)  
[Slips Trips and Falls Signages](#)  
[7 Videos on Slips, Trips, and Falls for Briefings or Trainings](#)  
[WSH Guidelines on Workplace Housekeeping](#)  
[Safety Timeout Sample Checklist for Workplace Housekeeping](#)  
[6 Basic WSH Rules for Workplace Housekeeping](#)

Sector-specific infographic posters:  
[Construction industry](#)  
[Marine industry](#)  
[Logistics and Transport industry](#)  
[Food and Beverage industry](#)  
[Facilities Management sector](#)

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