

Occupations and Workplaces

Glazier (Glass Worker)

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What does a glazier do?

A glazier is a person who works with glass - installing, repairing, or replacing glass in commercial, industrial, or residential buildings or in automobiles.

The main duties of a glazier include:

- Cutting, grinding, polishing and drilling glass.
- Handling of sheets of glass in the warehouse, during transportation, and at the work site. This handling may involve using slings and power lift devices.
- Applying adhesives, sealants and caulks.
- Using, cleaning and maintaining various types of equipment.
- Administrative tasks such as preparing estimates and invoices, supervising assistants, and ensuring compliance with building codes.

What are some health and safety issues for glaziers?

Glaziers can work in a variety of settings. Some of these settings, such as construction sites, may contain many hazards which glaziers must be aware of.

The main health and safety issues for glaziers include:

- Work at heights, including work on [ladders](#) and [scaffolds](#).
- Handling large, awkward, heavy sheets of glass.
- Working in [awkward positions](#) and [standing](#) for long periods of time.

- [Slips, trips and falls](#).
 - Injuries from falling objects, or being crushed by heavy sheets of glass.
 - Cuts and lacerations from sharp edges of glass or the tools used.
 - Eye injuries from flying particles when cutting and grinding glass.
 - Exposure to dust from cutting, grinding, drilling and polishing of glass.
 - Exposure to other materials and equipment such as [wood](#) or [metal](#) when creating framing.
 - Using [hand tools](#) and [powered hand tools](#).
 - Exposures to solvents in adhesives, sealants, etching chemicals, and cleaning products.
 - Working outdoors in hot or cold weather.
 - [Working alone](#).
 - Travel to reach job sites.
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What are some preventative measures for a glazier?

- Follow proper procedures for working at heights, including a [fall protection plan](#).
 - Work safely when on [ladders](#) and [scaffolds](#).
 - Apply safe [lifting](#) techniques.
 - Ensure that tools and equipment are in good working order. Use ergonomic friendly tools.
 - Know how to use tools and equipment safely, including [sharp blades or edges](#).
 - Use correct [personal protective equipment](#) such as [eye protection](#) when cutting and grinding.
 - Use protective [gloves](#) and [footwear](#) when handling glass sheets.
 - Take adequate breaks to avoid [fatigue](#).
 - Know first aid and keep a first-aid kit within easy access.
 - Learn how to prevent heat stress and cold stress when working in extreme [hot](#) and [cold](#) environments.
 - Carry a mobile phone or other alternative means to contact with a designated person when working alone.
 - Drive safely, including in [winter conditions](#). Do not drive [distracted](#).
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What are some good general work practices?

- On construction sites, know the safety rules and procedures.
 - Wear appropriate [personal protective equipment](#), including footwear, head protection, eye protection and gloves.
 - Read the [safety data sheets](#) for any hazardous products that you use and follow all recommended safety precautions.
 - Avoid [stress](#) and fatigue associated with [working long workdays](#), [shift work](#), and tight deadlines.
 - Follow good [housekeeping procedures](#).
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