

Trip Hazard Version 1-2

Definition: Hazard caused by an abrupt change in vertical elevation or horizontal separation on any walking surface along the normal path of travel. A trip hazard must meet either of the following criteria:

- a 3/4 inch or greater vertical difference on a walking surface, OR
- a 2-inch horizontal separation perpendicular to the path of travel

Name tripping hazard, walking hazard, obstacle
Variants:

Most Common Materials: N/A

Most Common Components: N/A

Location & Inspection of Trip Hazards

Abilities or Knowledge Needed:

- Visual acuity for location & inspection
- Mobility for access to all areas of the property

Tools for Location & Inspection

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|-----------|-------------------------|
| Useful: | none |
| Required: | length measuring device |

Common Locations:

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|--------------|---|
| Unit/Inside: | hallways, floors, stairwells, patios, elevators |
| Outside: | walkways, stair treads, parking lots, driveways, patios, pool decks, ramps, play areas. |

How to Locate:

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|---------------------|---|
| Visual Observation: | Look at the floor and ground to identify significant difference in vertical elevation or horizontal separation. |
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Possible Deficiencies:

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|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Deficiency 1: | Trip hazard on walking surface |
|---------------|--------------------------------|

Deficiency 1: Trip hazard on walking surface

Rationales: Safety, Direct: If a trip hazard is present, this increases the probability of falls that may lead to injury. Trip hazards restrict the safe use of a path of travel.

Corrective Maintenance, Direct: It is reasonable to expect tenants to report trip hazards and for facilities management to prioritize a work order response to fix that deficiency.

Health and Safety Determination: This is a standard health and safety issue requiring a repair, correction, or act of abatement within 30 days.

How to Inspect: Visual Observation: Look at the ground along the normal path of travel to identify significant difference in vertical elevation or horizontal separation.

Action: Measure—if a significant difference is identified—the difference in vertical elevation or horizontal separation. Photograph the hazard and the measurement.

Record deficiency if: there is an abrupt change in vertical elevation or horizontal separation on any walking surface along the normal path of travel, consisting of the following criteria:

- a 3/4 inch or greater vertical difference, OR
- a 2-inch horizontal separation perpendicular to the path of travel

Please Note: If the walking area has an engineered designed gap or vertical difference; this is not a tripping hazard. i.e. a raised manhole, a plant grate designed in the middle of a sidewalk.

Trip Hazard, Version 1-2 (26 Dec 2019)

Summary of Changes (from Version 1)

- The **Rationales** and the **Health and Safety Determination** have been updated, following in-house review and public comment.