

safety matters

Restaurant
Toolbox Talks

From your safety partners at Gallagher Franchise Solutions

Preventing Wet Surface Hazards in the Restaurant

Wet surfaces present hazards to everyone—you, our staff and our customers. Surfaces get slippery from mopping floors, wet weather conditions, spills and activities, such as dishwashing, that require the use of water. All result in potentially hazardous conditions. Slipping on a wet surface can cause bruises, strains, sprains, cuts, fractures, head injuries—and worse. And all that stacks up to lost wages, too.

Be Aware of Hazards

Each part of the restaurant is different, so the way you adapt to wet surfaces is on a case-by-case basis. However, following these general guidelines is a good start:

- Clean up spills immediately, even if it's not "your job."
- Use caution signs to clearly identify when a surface is wet or likely to become wet, and remove the signs as soon as the surface is dry.
- Barricade affected areas, if necessary.
- Use floor mats at entrances and exits to keep surfaces as dry as possible and prevent slipping.
- Ensure good drainage to prevent standing water and speed drying.
- Wear shoes with slip-resistant soles, and keep them clean.

- Immediately report any spills or wet areas that you notice and can't clean up yourself to the manager on duty.

Anti-slip Tips

If you do walk through a wet surface, follow these tips to avoid slipping.

- Slow down. Your safety is more important than your speed.
- Take small steps to keep your balance centered.
- Walk with your feet pointed slightly outward to form a stable base.
- Make wide turns at corners.
- Use handrails, if present.
- Concentrate on the surface you are walking on.
- Keep your hands out for balance.

Cooperate and Stay Alert

Safety is a top priority at . If you have any doubt about your safety or that of our customers', whether it concerns a wet surface or another hazard, report it. It takes the co-operation of our entire crew to keep our establishment safe.

Injuries from slips and falls can be prevented by cleaning up spills and wet surfaces immediately, and staying alert when walking on wet surfaces.