



WEEKLY SAFETY TALK #10: TAILGATE DISCUSSION GUIDE

Warning Line Rules: When the Line Is Legal, How It Is Built, and the Safety Monitor

Foreman: work through these with the crew on site. Point at the actual roof, the actual gear. Then run the quick check and sign off.

TALK IT THROUGH (10 MINUTES, ON THE JOB SITE)

- 1 When is a warning line legal, and what else has to be with it?**
Prompt: Only for roofing work on a low-slope roof (4 in 12 or less), 6 ft or more up (1926.501(b)(10)). Never alone: pair it with a guardrail, safety net, personal fall arrest system, or safety monitor.
- 2 How far from the edge does the line go, and where does it move out to 10 feet?**
Prompt: At least 6 ft from every edge (1926.502(f)(1)(i)). With a roofing cart in use, the edges it drives toward move out to 10 ft; the edges parallel to its travel stay at 6 ft (1926.502(f)(1)(ii)).
- 3 What does the line itself have to be?**
Prompt: Rope, wire, or chain rated 500 lb, never tape; 34 to 39 in above the roof including sag; flagged every 6 ft; on stanchions that resist a 16 lb pull at 30 in without tipping (1926.502(f)(2)).
- 4 Who may be between the line and the edge, and who may rely on the roofers' line?**
Prompt: Only a worker doing roofing work there, protected by the companion system (1926.502(f)(3)). HVAC and other trades may not use the roofers' 6 ft line (OSHA letter, Nov. 15, 2002); inside 15 ft they tie off.
- 5 What does the safety monitor do, and when is a monitor alone enough?**
Prompt: A competent person on the same roof, within sight and voice, warning the crew, with no other duties (1926.502(h)(1)). Alone only on a roof 50 ft or less in width, the shorter dimension (1926.501(b)(10)).

QUICK CHECK: CIRCLE THE ANSWERS AS A CREW

- A. A warning line with nothing else on a low-slope roof is: Compliant Compliant under 50 ft wide A violation
- B. Lowest point of the line, including sag, above the roof: 24 in 34 in 45 in
- C. A 120-ft by 60-ft roof: can a monitor alone protect the crew? Yes No Only with a cart

CREW SIGN-OFF (29 CFR 1926.503(b) requires written training certification)

NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE	DATE

Foreman / competent person: _____ Job site: _____ Date: _____

Key: A) A violation; every (b)(10) option is a combination B) 34 in (1926.502(f)(2)(ii)) C) No; the roof is 60 ft wide, so the line goes with the monitor
For information purposes only; all plans must be approved by a Competent or Qualified Person before work begins, as required by OSHA.
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