

TIP SHEET

A series of health and safety tips to prevent work-related injuries in the trucking industry



Be an Ace with Jacks



Inspect jacks and jack stands before each use.

Using a hydraulic floor jack the wrong way to lift a large truck or trailer can end in severely injuring or killing a technician working under the vehicle. Doing things the right way means starting with the jack manufacturer's safety instructions. Jacks that get a lot of use will wear out faster and can fail. That's why it is important to routinely inspect and service them. Never use the jack to support the vehicle after lifting. Instead, fully transfer the vehicle's weight onto heavy duty jack stands after lifting. Using jack stands will also extend your floor jack's lifespan. Knowing where the vehicle's recommended lift points are located will also lower risk.



Washington State Department of
Labor & Industries

TIPS TO LIVE BY

Prepare and raise:

- Set the vehicle's parking brakes and chock the wheels before raising.
- Make sure the jack and jack stands have a sufficient load rating to raise and support the vehicle.
- Set the jack and jack stands on a firm, level surface under the vehicle.
- Raise vehicle vertically with the jack and jack stands perpendicular, at a right angle to the load.

Set and lower:

- Adjust the jack stand's height so it touches the contact point before lowering the vehicle on it.
- Set the vehicle on jack stands and pull the jack away before crawling underneath it.
- When lowering a fully raised vehicle to the ground, remove front jack stands first.

Maintenance:

- Routinely inspect and maintain jacks and jack stands according to manufacturer's specifications.
- Tag and immediately remove worn or damaged jacks and jack stands from service.

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KeepTruckingSafe.org

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