

SAFETY BASICS *Healthcare Series*

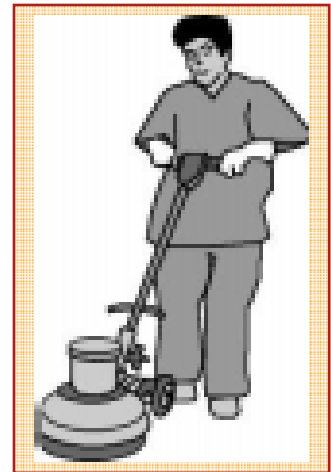
Cleaning Rooms (Electrical)

Activity: Housekeeping

Description: Work methods and tools to vacuum and buff floors

When to Use: Vacuuming and buffing floors.

Buffing: Buffers should have lightweight construction, triggers long enough to accommodate at least the index and middle fingers, adjustable handle height and easy-to-reach controls.



Vacuuming: Vacuums should have lightweight construction, adjustable handle height and controls that are easily accessed. Avoid short strokes by walking with the machine. Alternate leading hand and avoid tight grip. Use telescoping or extension handles for areas that are high, low or far away. Remove vacuum bag when 1/2 to 3/4 full. Vacuums and powered devices are preferred over manual devices for moderate to long duration use. Heavy rolling canisters should have brakes.

Emptying trash: Limit size of container to limit weight of load; dump carts of trash into receptacle at lower level for gravity assistance; use frame vs. solid can to prevent plastic bag from sticking to inside of container; avoid tying bag to frame, and place receptacles in unobstructed and easy-to-reach places.

Safety Basic Health Care Series Information is extracted directly from OSHA safety materials. For additional information consult www.OSHA.gov

New York State Insurance Fund
www.nysif.com

