workfit

BASIC'S OF BODY MECHANICS

Follow these 7 basic checkpoints to help prevent injury and keep you safe!

WHEN STANDING, SITTING, OR LOOKING AT A SCREEN:



DO:

- Maintain good posture keeping ear in line with shoulder
- Keep shoulders down and relaxed



DO NO

 Hold head forward, with ear going past shoulder

WHEN LIFTING OR TWISTING:



DO:

- Pick up feet and walk around to change direction
- Or, pivot on back foot
- Keep torso squared



DO NO

- Twist with feet planted
- Twist through your torso or knees to change direction

WHEN
LIFTING OFF
THE GROUND
OR PICKING
ITEMS UP:



DO

- Bend your knees to lift
- Maintain a neutral spine when lifting



DO NO

 Stoop over with a rounded back and straight knees

WHEN PUSHING SUPPLY CARTS:



DO:

- Face your work
- Push using the power of your legs



DO NO

- Twist away from your work
- Pull from awkward positions

WHEN STANDING FOR LONG PERIODS:



DO

- Use a wide stance OR
- Use a long stance to give you a good base of support



DO NO

• Stand with feet too close together

WHEN
REACHING
OR
CARRYING
OBJECTS:



DO:

 Reach with elbows pointed down & close to body



DO NO

 Reach with elbows winging out & away from body

WHEN
HOLDING
OR
GRIPPING:



DO

 Hold objects and work maintaining a neutral wrist - keep forearm, wrist and hand in a straight line



DO NO

 Work with a bent wrist - this can significantly reduce your grip strength