# O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

## **CLOSED TOE SHOES**

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are a common shoe requirement in the workplace to lower the potential risk of injury to the feet. Wearing a closed toe shoe won't always prevent an injury but it can lower the severity should it occur. When purchasing closed toe shoes look for a complete enclosure of the toes and heels, solid uppers (covers the whole top of the foot with no holes), and rubber soles for traction. University footwear requirements are determined by the department based on the potential hazards that may be present in the workplace. If your department requires closed toe shoes, you will find it as part of the dress code for the position. Ask your supervisor if you are not sure of the shoe requirements of your job.

#### **EXAMPLES POTENTIAL HAZARDS:**

- Objects in pathway (trip hazards)
- Pinch points (doors, cabinets, etc...)
- Dropped objects or spilled liquids
- Falling sharps (syringes, knives, tools, etc...)
- Chemical exposure
- Floor surfaces (wet, icy, uneven, etc..)

### WHAT TO DO!

- Follow the dress code established by your department and wear closed toe shoes if required!
- Purchase closed toe shoes with solid uppers and rubber soles.
- Replace damaged or broken shoes that expose the toes, top of the feet, or create less traction.
- Pay attention for potential hazards in the area.
- Report any on the job injuries to your supervisor immediately!
- In an emergency, call <u>911</u> and UOPD (541-346-2919) for immediate assistance!



Example of an appropriate closed toe and heel shoe with traction.



Example of shoes without a solid upper, allowing materials to contact the foot.



Replace when the soles begin to wear to the point of compromising traction.



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\*Does not act in place of official training. Contact EHS.

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