



Is It Time to Replace Your Slip Resistant Shoes?

Healthcare workers are exposed to slip hazards on the job that include everything from shoes with worn tread to contaminants on the floor, like water or other fluids.

87 slips, trips, and falls per day¹

40% of these injuries were from slips²

1-2 times per month place the base of a AA battery by the edge of the heel.



If the size of the area of worn tread is smaller than the base of the battery, **your shoes are still good to wear.**



If the area of worn tread fully surrounds the base of the battery, **it is time to replace your shoes.**



As your shoes wear down, check them more often, check weekly. **Shoes with worn tread lead to more slips.**

¹U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics [2020]. TABLE R4. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by industry and selected events or exposures leading to injury or illness, private industry, 2018, Washington, D.C. Note: Falls to a lower level were excluded in the calculation of falls per day.

²U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics [2020]. Nonfatal cases involving days away from work: selected characteristics (2011 forward) Series ID CSUAFS411XXX6E100, CSUAFS41XXX6E100, CSUAFS422XXX6E100, CSUAFS42XXX6E100. Washington, D.C.

Always check manufacturer guidelines for replacing shoes.

Reference: Beschoner KE, Siegel JL, Hemler SL, Sundaram VH, Chanda A., Iraqi A, Haight JM, Redfern MS [2020]. An observational ergonomic tool for assessing the worn condition of slip-resistant shoes, Applied Ergonomics, 88, 103140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apergo.2020.103140>



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