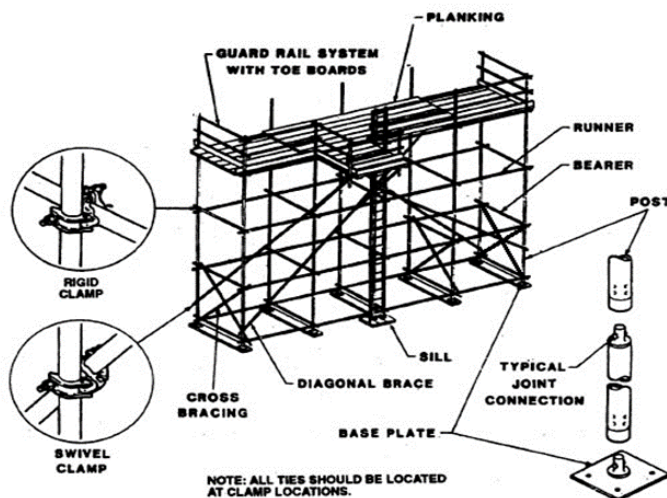


What is Tube and Clamp Scaffold

A tube and clamp scaffold has a platform(s) supported by tubing, and is erected with coupling devices (right angles) connecting uprights, braces, bearers, and runners. The two main clamps are called joiners and swivels. Due to their strength, weight and abilities, this scaffold is often used where simpler scaffolds cannot fit, or where the scaffold is hung from the ceiling or built in such a way that conventional scaffolding won't work. This system can be assembled in multiple directions and tight fitting areas, making it the preferred option for work surfaces with irregular dimensions and/or contours. This type of scaffolding is light weight and can be maneuvered by hand easily. While inspecting this scaffold workers should:

- look at each clamp and ensure it is still friction fitted in place
- question clamp placement, not in all cases are both wedges fitted around a tube, for example, when holding a toe board
- if unsure, always call a professional and get clarification
- Ensure scaffold tags are placed:
 - **Red tag** indicates unsafe, do not use
 - **Yellow tag** indicates there are some hazards and to read the tag prior to use
 - **Green tag** indicates ready to use

TUBE and COUPLER SCAFFOLD



Other Things To Look For

- all vertical/horizontal members are square plumb and level
- ladders should not be taller than 6m or 20 feet without a ladder cage or break in the ladder
- toe boards should be 12.5cm or 5 inches in height
- handrails should be set at 91cm to 107cm or 36 to 42 inches with the mid rail set in between
- all clamps shall be firmly in place and connected
- when erecting a freestanding scaffold it can only be 3 times the smallest base dimension
- deck height should be five feet below the area of work
- ensure that workers do not climb diagonal braces to reach the scaffold platform
- do not use scaffold components from different manufacturers, unless you can do so while maintaining the scaffold's structural integrity

Legislation

12-9(1) If a metal scaffold is used, an employer or contractor shall ensure that the metal scaffold is: (a)erected, used, maintained and dismantled in accordance with the manufacturer's or professional engineer's specifications and recommendations; and (b)inspected, by a competent person, prior to use and daily when in use for any damage, deterioration or weakening of the scaffold or the scaffold's components.

12-9(3) If a metal scaffold is a tube and clamp scaffold, an employer or contractor shall ensure that: (a)joints in adjacent uprights are staggered and do not occur in the same tier; (b)joints in uprights are located not more than one-third of a tier away from the connection of a ledger; (c)ledgers are erected horizontally along the length of the scaffold and coupled to each upright at regular intervals of one tier; (d)all ledgers are joined to form a continuous length; (e)individual tube lengths of a ledger are the lesser of: (i)two or more bays in length; or (ii)the horizontal length of the scaffold; (f)tubes of different metals or gauges are not joined together; and (g)if base plates are required, they are securely installed in the uprights and securely attached to the sills.

