

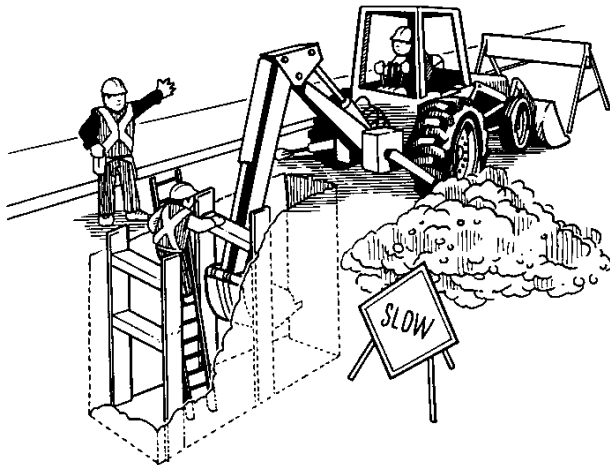
Work **Safe!** Bulletin

SHORING TRENCH EXCAVATIONS

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When installing shoring within a trench type excavation proper methods and procedures to provide for a safe worksite must be followed. When shoring is in progress, the bucket of the excavation machine must be placed in the trench directly in front of the shoring being installed. The bucket will serve as additional protection if a cave-in occurs.

It is essential that shoring struts/jacks be installed from the top down. The top (first) strut/jack should be placed approximately 50 cm below the surface, then the second strut/jack placed 1 metre below the first strut/jack. The installation of the first and second strut/jack supports the vertical uprights and begins stabilizing the excavation walls.



Once the worker has a minimum of two strut/ jacks placed on each set of uprights the worker may proceed to install the lower struts/jacks.

This procedure is to be followed with each set of shoring.

- The backhoe operator must place the bucket directly in front of shoring to be installed and take care not to strike the shoring in place.
- Install the first and second strut/jack on each set of uprights to stabilize the excavation walls prior to placing the lower struts/jacks.
- The worker installing the shoring is protected by a set of shoring behind and the backhoe bucket positioned in front.
- The backhoe bucket must be placed between the vertical uprights while the worker is placing the struts/jacks. This procedure is to be followed with each set of shoring.
- The top man keeps the excavation under surveillance at all times a worker is in the excavation.

For regulatory requirements on the shoring of excavations refer to Manitoba Regulation 189/85.