

*Planks and decks***List scaffolds needing inspection on site**

Explain dangers

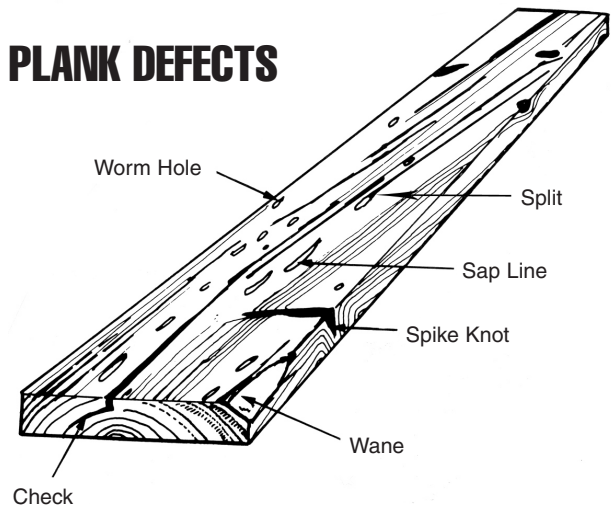
If scaffold planks and decks fail, you could be seriously injured or killed from a fall. You could also be thrown off balance and injure yourself with your tools or equipment.

Identify controls

Scaffold planks and deck material must be inspected regularly. **Here's what to check for.**

Wood planks

- The right length. Planks must overhang the frame no less than 6 and no more than 12 inches (150 - 300 mm).
- Cracks—these can often be detected at the end of the plank. Discard planks with long and deep cracks.
- Cuts on plank edges from saws, tools, sharp objects. Discard planks with many or deep cuts.
- Worm holes, splits, knots knocked out along edges, lots of nail holes—discard planks when they're serious.
- Light weight—this can indicate dry rot that can't be seen.
- Condition of cleats—damaged cleats should be removed and replaced.

PLANK DEFECTS**Laminated veneer lumber planks**

- Separation of laminated layers—usually due to repeated changes in moisture levels as layers soak up rain and dry in sun.
- Cuts of any kind.
- Pressure cracks in the top or bottom layer.
- Warping from wear and weather.
- The condition of cleats.

Aluminum/plywood deck panels

- Cuts in aluminum frames.
- Deformed, cracked, or broken fastening hooks and hardware.
- Cracked or broken plywood.
- Bent, cracked, or broken rungs.
- Sliding or other locking devices in good condition.

As a general rule, you should plank or deck the working levels of a scaffold across their full width for maximum support and stability.

Demonstrate

Demonstrate methods of inspecting planks and panels. Ask crew to inspect sample materials on site.