



Crane Rigging Do's and Don'ts

Dos

- Identify who will be signally to the crane operator as the slinger or rigger. (Use a high-visibility vest or colored helmet to differentiate from others)
- Review crane signals to be used with crane operator to ensure clear communication is present.
- Only one slinger/rigger signals the crane operator. The only exception is a stop signal.
- Determine the weight of the load to be lifted.
- Select the right sling for each job using manufacturer's tables. A slinger must be familiar with these tables showing the safe capacities of slings and rigging styles.
- Make clear signals according to standard crane signals.
- Inspect lifting equipment before and after lifts. Remove any damaged rigging from use — make sure it is tagged as "DO NOT USE" or destroyed.
- Protect slings from damage by sharp edges with corner saddles, padding or wooden blocks.
- Warn all people out of the load area before starting the lift.
- Protect your hands and fingers: when slack is being taken out of a sling, keep them from between the sling and load to avoid pinch and crush injuries.
- Step away before the lift is made.
- Make sure a load is high enough to clear all objects before signaling for the crane to move.
- Use guide ropes to prevent rotation or other uncontrolled motion.
- Hook unused sling legs to the sling ring.
- Set down loads on blocking, never directly on a sling.
- KEEP TRAVEL PATH CLEAR.

Don'ts

- Don't ride on hooks, headache ball or loads.
- Don't allow workers to walk or work under a load.
- Don't splice broken slings together.
- Don't exceed the capacities of slings or cranes.
- Don't twist or tie knots in slings.
- Don't drag slings.
- Do not leave unused slings lying on the floor or in the work area. (Hang on racks or store in proper place.)
- Don't carry a load by inserting the point of the hook into a link on the chain.
- Don't hammer a sling into place.
- Don't leave loose materials on a load.
- Don't use slings that are damaged or defective.
- Don't leave suspended loads unattended.

