

WORKING IN THE SERVICE OR PICK UP AREA

Some of the hazards in the service or pick up area, such as traffic flow and housekeeping, are related to the issue of sharing a workspace. Other hazards include slippery floors and picking up hot food.



Hazard: Traffic Flow

Details

During busy periods, there is a danger of bumping into co-workers.

Threat

- Head injury
- Bruises

Safe Work Guidelines

- Clearly mark 'IN' and 'OUT' doors
- Tell your co-workers when you are moving through the area

- Keep out of service area except when you need to be there – do not hang around
- Do not kick doors open
- Help co-workers who are busy (this will help keep the service area from getting backed up with orders)
- Organize your work so that you do not have to go to the service area too often

Hazard: Slippery Floors

Details

Floors may become littered with food or liquid spills.

Threat

- Head or back injury
- Broken bones

Safe Work Guidelines

- If you spill something
 - Follow your workplace clean-up procedures immediately
 - If you find a spill that someone else has left, clean it up right away
 - If possible, warn others about the spill
 - If you step into a spill, clean off your shoes right away
- Wear the right non-slip footwear for your job
- To avoid spilling food and liquids, scrape and stack dishes carefully
- Know where to find the mop and wet floor sign
- Walk, do not run

Hazard: Picking up Hot Food

Details

Plates become hot sitting under the heat lamps.

Threat

- Minor or major burns to your hands and arms

Safe Work Guidelines

- Before picking up a plate with your bare hands, test the temperature
- Do not use a napkin or a paper serviette as a hot mitten
- Do not carry hot plates on your arm – the heat will slowly penetrate and can burn you
- Whenever possible, carry your own hot mitten or pad
- When you deliver hot plates or food, warn the guests about the heat

Hazard: Poor Housekeeping

Details

A crowded or disorganized service area may lead to accidents.

Threat

- Trips and falls
- Broken bones
- Bruises

Safe Work Guidelines

- Put things away as you go – do not let them pile up
- Do not clutter the floor with bus bins, dishes, or garbage
- If you have a quiet moment, use it to tidy up
- Make sure that no waste materials block exits or entranceways
- Ask your supervisor, joint health and safety committee member, or health and safety rep to make others accountable for keeping their areas clean
- Work with your co-workers to keep the service area clean and tidy

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