

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Burns or scalds as a result of contact with hot surfaces



Burns or scalds from contact with steam or hot water



Slip injuries caused by wet floors



Electric shock from contact faulty equipment or incorrect use of equipment



Trip injuries from trailing cables



Back and muscle strain from poor manual handling

What other precautions should be taken?



Wear appropriate enclosed footwear with slip-resistant soles



Clean up any spillages immediately



Visually inspect equipment and cables for any damage or defects, such as burn marks or frayed cables before use.

Steam cleaners

Safety Task Card STCCL 32

Safe System of Work

1. Only use the equipment if you have been trained to do so and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Erect warning signage and where appropriate use barriers to prevent unauthorised access.
3. Visually inspect equipment, including the power cord, plug and steam hose for damage. Do not use if there is any damage, including leaks, and report this to your manager.
4. Ensure that equipment is filled with cold water before use. Don't fill with hot water and never add cleaning chemicals.
5. Never direct the steam jet towards people and keep hands away from the steam jet.
6. Do not overreach and always use good manual handling practices when moving equipment.
7. Equipment must be stationary when in use. If you need to move it, turn it off and allow it to cool.
8. Keep the cable behind the work area and ensure it is kept dry.
9. Do not touch the cable or plug with wet hands and take care when cleaning around electrical sockets.
10. When cleaning electrical equipment, do not use the steam cleaner around electrical components, such as the inside of ovens.
11. Always turn equipment off and allow it to cool before changing accessory parts.
12. Be aware that equipment may be hot, and that hot water may drip from accessory parts when these are being detached.
13. Don't leave equipment unattended.
14. Clean up spillages as they occur and use wet floor warning signs when appropriate.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding

