

# Safe Use of Step Stools in Schools

## Picture This



In the image, the worker demonstrates several critical safety concerns regarding the improper use of step stools in schools. He is shown standing on an unstable stool while reaching for the ceiling fan, risking a fall. The stool appears to

be either incorrectly positioned or unsuitable for the task, with the worker possibly overreaching beyond the safe limit. These actions highlight common mistakes, such as failing to ensure the stool is on a flat, stable surface and standing on the top step, which significantly increases the risk of accidents.

This scenario underscores the importance of following proper safety practices to prevent injuries when using step stools in school environments. Workers should always use stable, appropriate equipment, maintain three points of contact, and avoid overreaching or standing on the top step. Additionally, ensuring that the stool is set up on a level surface and inspecting it for any defects before use are essential precautions. By prioritizing these safety measures, schools can create a safer environment for staff and set an example for students about the importance of workplace safety.