

# SAFETY TALK

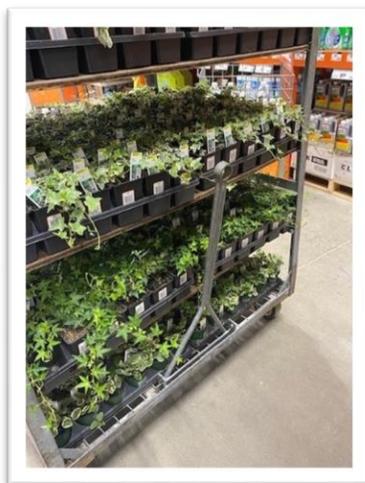
## Safe Work Practices

### Rack Handling

This Safety Talk is to raise awareness of hazards caused by **Rack Handling**. This heavy equipment can leave someone; a merchandiser, Home Depot representative or even a customer seriously injured if managed improperly. Eliminate this risk and liability by being aware of the proper way to move these racks as well as being aware of the hazards so they can be avoided.

### Risk Assessment/Hazards

- **Trip hazards** are created when racks are left connected, or the tow bar is left down.
- **Foot injuries** occur when you are not aware of your feet placement while moving racks.
- **Struck injuries** occur if rack is left unsecure or gains momentum if control of the rack is not maintained.
- **Tip over hazards** occur if moving rack over rough or uneven surfaces.
- **Pinch Point hand injuries** occur between shelving or storage in tight spaces.
- **Back strain hazards** occur if overexertion occurs with heavy racks.



- ✓ **Gently move** a rack first to determine which side has the turning wheels. Move the rack standing off to one side with the turning wheels closest to you, holding the frame while pushing the rack forward.
- ✓ **Seek help** for heavy racks, or ramps and uneven surfaces. (See picture below)
- ✓ **Move rack no faster** than walking speed.
- ✓ **Always keep a clear line** of sight ahead of you when moving a rack.
- ✓ **Only move one** rack at a time, never in a train with the tow bar connecting them.
- ✓ **Never leave** two racks connected.
- ✓ **Always check** and make sure the tow bar is in an upright position.
- ✓ **Be aware** of hand positions when moving racks into tight spaces or adjusting shelving.
- ✓ **Keep aisles clean and free** of debris which creates trip hazards.
- ✓ **On windy days knock** empty wooden shelves down to waist or knee level to prevent them from blowing away.
- ✓ **Always store racks** unconnected (tow bar in upright position) and touching each other.
- ✓ **Never use the tow bar** to pull the rack.

### Retail Safety Excellence