

# MEWPs

- Cherry pickers provide a safe way of working at height. They allow the worker to reach the task quickly and easily, have guard rails and toe boards which prevent a person falling

## Before using the cherry picker:

- Carry out pre use checks to make sure it is in good working order.
- Make sure the cherry picker can get to the work area safely
- Is the ground level and firm enough to take the weight of the machine
- Look out for obstructions, features or overhead hazards
- Take steps to prevent passing traffic colliding with the platform
- Prevent tools or materials falling from the platform.
- Are you wearing a harness and short work restraint lanyard
- Only get in and out of the platform when it is lowered fully
- Make sure that the barrier or gate is closed and secured before raising the lift.
- Have a colleague at ground level who can operate it in an emergency

## Maintenance

Make sure the following are in good condition:

- Wheels & brakes
- Working platform, guard rails and the gate
- Locking pins, joints & struts
- All controls including emergency controls.
- Descent alarm and horn is working.

## Common causes of accidents:

- Falling over the top rail
- Worker misses a step or slips on accessing or getting down.
- Machine overturns because it is not set up on a firm or level surface.
- Machine overturns because of over-reaching or pulling/lifting a heavy object.
- Mechanical failure
- Machine is struck by another vehicle



**Q. If you are manoeuvring the cherry picker on rough terrain or gradients, at what height should you have the platform?**

**Q. Why should you never climb or lean over the guard rails?**

**Q. Why should work restraint lanyards be short?**