

## Lifting Accessories

**Prepare:** Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

**Reason:** Several fatal accidents occur each year involving lifting gear, caused by misuse or neglect of equipment..

**Why:** It is people who cause accidents, not equipment.

**Outline:** This talk will cover slings, chains, shackles, hooks and eyebolts.



### Slings

- Check SWL on sling against load to be lifted.
- Rope slings need not be marked with the SWL provided that a certificate of test is available and the SWL is known.
- Do not use fibre rope or wire slings for hot loads and keep them away from welding or flame cutting operations.
- Ensure no broken ends in wires or chafing on fibre ropes.

**Q: What must you check before using a sling?**

- Check condition of splices, rings and thimbles on slings.
- A sling doubled round a shackle has a SWL equivalent only to that of a single part of the rope.
- Protect wire rope or nylon slings from sharp edges

**Q: What happens if you double a sling around a shackle?**

### Chains

- Make sure the chain is not kinked or twisted.
- Do not shorten a chain by knotting it.
- Never lengthen a chain by joining pieces together.
- Do not lubricate chain slings – oil can pick up abrasive materials such as sand and grit.
- Do not expose chains to acids or corrosive substances.

**Q: Why shouldn't you lubricate chains?**

### NOTES

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## Protection of Skin

### Shackles

- Use the right type of shackle for the job in hand.
- Do not use any shackle which isn't marked with the SWL.
- Check bow and pin for damage, destroy if doubtful.
- Ensure pin is free, but not loose in tapped hole.
- When using a shackle with 'nut and bolt' pin, the pin should be free to rotate when nut is tight

**Q: What would you check on a shackle before use?**

### Hooks And Eyebolts

- Check both hooks and eyebolts carefully for cracks, cuts, dents and corrosion pits.
- Swivel hooks should rotate freely.
- Always mouse hooks unless fitted with safety catch and make sure the catch operates freely.
- Check centre line of eye is central with threaded portion

**Q: What checks should be carried out on hooks and eyebolts before using them?**

**Do you have any questions for me?**

### Questions for you

**Q: What must you have before using a rope sling?**

**Q: Name two things you must not do when using chains Q: What would you do with a distorted shackle?**

**Q: If a hook isn't fitted with a catch, what would you do?**

**REMEMBER:**

**A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK  
- KNOW THE SWL OF ALL LIFTING GEAR**

#### Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/construction.pdf>

### NOTES

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