

Excavation, Trenching and Shoring Procedures

Scope and Application:

This excavation, trenching and shoring procedures and policy sets forth the official practices required for excavation, trenching and shoring made by Pagoda Electrical, Inc. employees.

Surface encumbrances- All surface encumbrances that are located so as to create a hazard to employees shall be removed or supported, as necessary, to safeguard employees.

General Requirements:

All excavations shall be made in accordance with the rules, regulations, requirements, and guidelines set forth in 29 CFR 1926.650, .651, and .652; the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's standard on Excavations, except where otherwise noted below.

Procedures:

A competent person shall be placed in charge of all excavations. Underground utilities must be located and marked before excavation begins. Employees are not allowed in the excavation while heavy equipment is digging.

Definitions:

Aluminum hydraulic shoring means an engineered shoring system comprised of aluminum hydraulic cylinders (cross braces), used in conjunction with vertical rails (uprights) or horizontal rails (walers). Such a system is designed specifically to support the sidewalls of an excavation and prevent cave-ins.

Benching means a method of protecting employees from cave-ins by excavating the sides of an excavation to form one or a series of horizontal levels or steps, usually with vertical or near-vertical surfaces between levels.

Cave-in means the separation of a mass of soil or rock material from the side of an excavation, or the loss of soil from under a trench shield or

support system, and its sudden movement into the excavation, either by falling or sliding, in sufficient quantity so that it could entrap, bury, or otherwise injure and immobilize a person.

Competent person means one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings, or working conditions that are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them. All competent persons must complete the 4-hour Physical Plant trenching and shoring class, successfully pass the exam, and be certified for successful completion of the class. A competent person should have and be able to demonstrate the following:

Training, experience, and knowledge of:

- soil analysis,
- use of protective systems, and
- requirements of 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P.

Ability to detect:

- conditions that could result in cave-ins,
- failures in protective systems,
- hazardous atmospheres, and
- other hazards including those associated with confined spaces.

Authority to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate existing and predictable hazards and to stop work when required.

Excavation means any man-made cut, cavity, trench, or depression in an earth surface, formed by earth removal.

Registered professional engineer means a person who is registered as a professional engineer.

Shield (shield system) means a structure that is able to withstand the forces imposed on it by a cave-in and thereby protect employees with the structure. Shields can be permanent structure or can be designed to be portable and moved along as work progresses. Also known as trench box or trench shield.

Shoring (shoring system) means a structure such as a metal hydraulic, mechanical or timber shoring system that supports the sides of an excavation and which is designed to prevent cave-ins.

Sloping (sloping system) means a method of protecting employees from cave-ins by excavating to form sides of an excavation that are inclined away from the excavation so as to prevent cave-ins. The angle of incline varies with differences in such factors as the soil type, environmental conditions of exposure, and application of surcharge loads.

Trench (trench excavation) means a narrow excavation (in relation to its length) made below the surface of the ground. In general, the depth is greater than the width, but the width of a trench is not greater than 15 feet. If forms or other structures are installed or constructed in an excavation as to reduce the dimension measured from the forms or structure to the side of the excavation to 15 feet or less, the excavation is also considered to be a trench.

Inspections:

Daily inspections of excavations, the adjacent areas, and protective systems shall be made by a competent person for evidence of a situation that could result in possible cave-ins, indications of failure of protective systems, hazardous atmospheres, or other hazardous conditions. An inspection shall be conducted by the competent person prior to the start of work and as needed throughout the shift. Inspections shall also be made after every rainstorm or other hazard increasing occurrence. These inspections are only required when employee exposure can be reasonably anticipated.

Where the competent person finds evidence of a situation that could result in a possible cave-in, indications of failure of protective systems, hazardous atmospheres, or other hazardous conditions, exposed employees shall be removed from the hazardous area until the necessary precautions have been taken to ensure their safety.

The competent person shall conduct inspections:

Daily and before the start of each shift by using the DAILY EXCAVATION CHECKLIST found at the end of this chapter
As dictated by the work being done in the trench.

After every rainstorm.

After other events that could increase hazards, such as snowstorm, windstorm, thaw, earthquake, dramatic change in weather, etc.

When fissures, tension cracks, sloughing, undercutting, water seepage, bulging at the bottom, or other similar conditions occur.

When there is a change in the size, location, or placement of the spoil pile.

When there is any indication of change or movement in adjacent structures.

(For excavations 4 feet or greater in depth, a trench inspection form shall be filled out for each inspection.)

Underground installations:

The estimated location of utility installations, such as sewer, telephone, fuel, electric, water lines, or any other underground installations that reasonably may be expected to be encountered during excavation work, shall be determined prior to opening an excavation.

Utility companies or owners shall be contacted within established or customary local response times, advised of the proposed work, and asked to establish the location of the utility underground installations prior to the start of actual excavation. When utility companies or owners cannot respond to a request to locate underground utility installations within 24 hours (unless a longer period is required by state or local law), or cannot establish the exact location of these installations, Pagoda Electrical, Inc. may proceed, provided Pagoda Electrical, Inc. does so with caution, and provided detection equipment or other acceptable means to locate utility installations are used.

When excavation operations approach the estimated location of underground installations, the exact location of the installations shall be determined by safe and acceptable means.

While the excavation is open, underground installations shall be protected, supported or removed as necessary to safeguard employees.

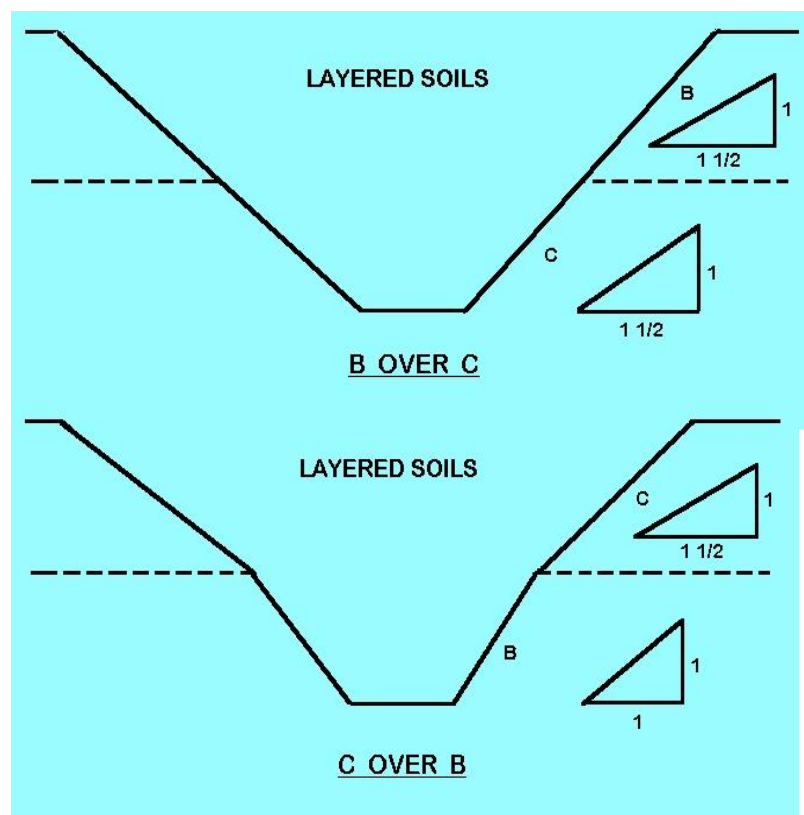
Soil Types, Classifications:

Type A - Most stable: clay, silty clay, and hardpan (resists penetration). No soil is Type A if it is fissured, is subject to vibration of any type, has previously been disturbed, or has seeping water.

Type B - Medium stability: silt, sandy loam, medium clay and unstable dry rock; previously disturbed soils unless otherwise classified as Type C; soils that meet the requirements of Type A soil but are fissured or subject to vibration.

Type C - Least stable: gravel, loamy sand, soft clay, submerged soil or dense, heavy unstable rock, and soil from which water is freely seeping.

Layered geological strata (where soils are configured in layers) - The soil must be classified on the basis of the soil classification of the weakest soil layer. Each layer may be classified individually if a more stable layer lies below a less stable layer, i.e. where a Type C soil rests on top of stable rock.



Testing Methods

The competent person in charge of the excavation shall be responsible for determining whether the soil is Type B or C. The competent person shall use a visual test coupled with one or more manual tests.

Visual test

In addition to checking the items on the trench inspection form, the competent person should perform a visual test to evaluate the conditions around the site. In a visual test, the entire excavation site is observed, including the soil adjacent to the site and the soil being excavated. The competent person also checks for any signs of vibration.

During the visual test, the competent person should check for crack-line openings along the failure zone that would indicate tension cracks, look for existing utilities that indicate that the soil has been previously disturbed, and observe the open side of the excavation for indications of layered geologic structuring.

This person should also look for signs of bulging, boiling, or sloughing, as well as for signs of surface water seeping from the sides of the excavation or from the water table.

In addition, the area adjacent to the excavation should be checked for signs of foundations or other intrusions into the failure zone, and the evaluator should check for surcharging and the spoil distance from the edge of the excavation.

Manual tests

Thumb penetration test- Attempt to press the thumb firmly into the soil in question.

If the thumb penetrates no further than the length of the nail, it is probably Type B soil. If the thumb penetrates the full length of the thumb, it is Type C. It should be noted that the thumb penetration test is the least accurate testing method.

Dry strength test- Take a sample of dry soil. If it crumbles freely or with moderate pressure into individual grains it is considered granular (Type C). Dry soil that falls into clumps that subsequently break into smaller clumps (and the smaller clumps can only be broken with difficulty) it is probably clay in combination with gravel, sand, or silt (Type B).

Plasticity or Wet Thread Test- Take a moist sample of the soil. Mold it into a ball and then attempt to roll it into a thin thread approximately 1/8 inch in diameter by two inches in length. If the soil sample does not break when held by one end, it may be considered Type B.

A pocket penetrometer, shearvane, or torvane may also be used to determine the unconfined compression strength of soils.

Spoil

Temporary spoil shall be placed no closer than 2 feet from the surface edge of the excavation, measured from the nearest base of the spoil to the cut. This distance should not be measured from the crown of the spoil deposit. This distance requirement ensures that loose rock or soil from the temporary spoil will not fall on employees in the trench.

Spoil should be placed so that it channels rainwater and other run-off water away from the excavation. Spoil should be placed so that it cannot accidentally run, slide, or fall back into the excavation.

Permanent spoil should be placed some distance from the excavation.

Surface Crossing of Trenches and Fall Protection

Walkways shall be provided where employees or equipment are required or permitted to cross over excavations. Guardrails which comply with 1926.502(b) shall be provided where walkways are 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above lower levels.

Surface crossing of trenches should not be made unless absolutely necessary. However, if necessary, they are only permitted under the following conditions:

Vehicle crossings must be designed by and installed under the supervision of a registered professional engineer.

Walkways or bridges must: have a minimum clear width of 20 inches, be fitted with standard rails, and extend a minimum of 24 inches past the surface edge of the trench.

Access, Ingress and Egress

Structural ramps.

Structural ramps that are used solely by employees as a means of access or egress from excavations shall be designed by a competent person. Structural ramps used for access or egress of equipment shall be designed by a competent person qualified in structural design and shall be constructed in accordance with the design.

Ramps and runways constructed of two or more structural members shall have the structural members connected together to prevent displacement.

Structural members used for ramps and runways shall be of uniform thickness.

Cleats or other appropriate means used to connect runway structural members shall be attached to the bottom of the runway or shall be attached in a manner to prevent tripping.

Structural ramps used in lieu of steps shall be provided with cleats or other surface treatments on the top surface to prevent slipping.

Means of egress from trench excavations. A stairway, LEANSAFE ladder, or other safe means of egress shall be located in trench excavations that are 4 feet (1.22 m) or more in depth so as to require no more than 25 feet (7.62 m) of lateral travel for employees.

Trenches 4 feet or more in depth shall be provided with a fixed means of egress.

Spacing between LEANSAFE ladders or other means of egress must be such that a worker will not have to travel more than 25 feet laterally to the nearest means of egress.

LEANSAFE ladders must be secured and extend a minimum of 36 inches above the top of trench.

LEANSAFE ladders are the only approved means of ladder egress from trench excavations.

Exposure to Vehicles

Employees exposed to vehicular traffic shall be provided with and required to wear reflective vests or other suitable garments marked with or made of reflectorized or high-visibility materials.

Trained flag persons, signs, signals, and barricades shall be used when necessary.

Exposure to Falling Loads

No employee nor any other person shall be permitted underneath loads handled by lifting or digging equipment.

All employees and personnel on an excavation site must wear hard hats.

Employees/personnel are not allowed to work under raised loads.

Employees/personnel are not allowed to work under loads being lifted or moved by heavy equipment used for digging or lifting.

Employees/personnel are required to stand away from equipment that is being loaded or unloaded to avoid being struck by falling materials or spillage.

Equipment operators or truck drivers may remain in their equipment during loading and unloading if the equipment is properly equipped with a cab shield or adequate canopy.

Warning Systems for Mobile Equipment

The following steps should be taken to prevent vehicles from accidentally falling into the trench:

Barricades must be installed where necessary,

Hand or mechanical signals must be used as required,

Stop logs must be installed if there is danger of vehicles falling into the trench.

Soil should be graded away from the excavation; this will assist in vehicle control and channeling of run-off water.

Trenches left open overnight shall be fenced and barricaded

Hazardous Atmospheres and Confined Spaces

Employees shall not be permitted to work in hazardous and/or toxic atmospheres.

Such atmospheres include those with:

less than 19.5% oxygen,

a combustible gas concentration greater than 20% of the lower flammable limit, and,

concentrations of hazardous substance that exceed those specified in the Threshold Limit Values for airborne contaminants established by the ACGIH.

All operations involving such atmospheres must be conducted in accordance with OSHA requirements for occupational health and environmental controls for personal protective equipment and for lifesaving equipment. Engineering controls (such as ventilation) and respiratory equipment may be required.

Testing for Atmospheric Contaminants

If there is any possibility that the trench or excavation could contain a hazardous atmosphere, atmospheric testing must be conducted prior to entry. Conditions that might warrant atmospheric testing would be if the excavation was made in a landfill area or if the excavation was crossed by, was adjacent to, or contained pipelines containing a hazardous material (for example, natural gas lines).

Testing for Atmospheric Contaminants (continued)

Testing should be conducted before employees enter the trench and should be done regularly to ensure that the trench remains safe. The frequency of testing should be increased if equipment is operating in the trench.

Testing frequency should also be increased if welding, cutting, or burning is done in the trench.

Employees required to wear respiratory protection must be trained, fit-tested, and enrolled in a respiratory protection program.

Some trenches qualify as confined spaces. When this occurs, compliance with Pagoda Electrical, Inc.'s Confined Space Program is also required.

Hazardous atmospheres:

Testing and controls. To prevent exposure to harmful levels of atmospheric contaminants and to assure acceptable atmospheric conditions, the following requirements shall apply:

- Where oxygen deficiency (atmospheres containing less than 19.5 percent oxygen) or a hazardous atmosphere exists or could reasonably be expected to exist, such as in excavations in landfill areas or excavations in areas where hazardous substances are stored nearby, the atmospheres in the excavation shall be tested before employees enter excavations greater than 4 feet (1.22 m) in depth.
- Adequate precautions shall be taken to prevent employee exposure to atmospheres containing less than 19.5 percent oxygen and other hazardous atmospheres. These precautions include providing proper respiratory protection or ventilation.
- Adequate precaution shall be taken such as providing ventilation, to prevent employee exposure to an atmosphere containing a concentration of a flammable gas in excess of 20 percent of the lower flammable limit of the gas.
- When controls are used that are intended to reduce the level of atmospheric contaminants to acceptable levels, testing shall be conducted as often as necessary to ensure that the atmosphere remains safe.

Emergency rescue equipment.

- Emergency rescue equipment, such as breathing apparatus, a safety harness and line, or a basket stretcher, shall be readily available where hazardous atmospheric conditions exist or may reasonably be expected to develop during work in an excavation. This equipment shall be attended when in use.
- Employees entering bell-bottom pier holes, or other similar deep and confined footing excavations, shall wear a harness with a lifeline securely attached to it. The lifeline shall be separate from any line used to handle materials and shall be

individually attended at all times while the employee wearing the lifeline is in the excavation.

Standing Water and Water Accumulation Protection

Employees shall not work in excavations in which there is accumulated water, or in excavations in which water is accumulating, unless adequate precautions have been taken to protect employees against the hazards posed by water accumulation. The precautions necessary to protect employees adequately vary with each situation but could include special support or shield systems to protect from cave-ins, water removal to control the level of accumulating water, or use of a safety harness and lifeline.

If water is controlled or prevented from accumulating by the use of water removal equipment, the water removal equipment and operations shall be monitored by a competent person to ensure proper operation.

If excavation work interrupts the natural drainage of surface water (such as streams), diversion ditches, dikes, or other suitable means shall be used to prevent surface water from entering the excavation and to provide adequate drainage of the area adjacent to the excavation. Excavations subject to runoff from heavy rains will require an inspection by a competent person and compliance with the previous two paragraphs of this section. In addition:

Methods for controlling standing water and water accumulation must be provided and should consist of the following if employees must work in the excavation:

Use of special support or shield systems approved by a registered professional engineer.

Water removal equipment, such as well pointing, used and monitored by a competent person.

Safety harnesses and lifelines used in conformance with 29 CFR 1926.104.

Employees removed from the trench during rainstorms

Trenches carefully inspected by a competent person after each rain and before employees are permitted to re-enter the trench.

Protection of employees from loose rock or soil.

Adequate protection shall be provided to protect employees from loose rock or soil that could pose a hazard by falling or rolling from an excavation face. Such protection shall consist of scaling to remove loose material; installation of protective barricades at intervals as necessary on the face to stop and contain falling material; or other means that provide equivalent protection.

Employees shall be protected from excavated or other materials or equipment that could pose a hazard by falling or rolling into excavations. Protection shall be provided by placing and keeping such materials or equipment at least 2 feet (.61 m) from the edge of excavations, or by the use of retaining devices that are sufficient to prevent materials or equipment from falling or rolling into excavations, or by a combination of both if necessary.

Benching, Sloping, Shoring, and Shielding Requirements

All excavations or trenches 4 feet or greater in depth shall be appropriately benched, shored, or sloped according to the procedures and requirements set forth in OSHA's

Excavation standard, 29 CFR 1926.650, .651, and .652.

Excavations or trenches 20 feet deep or greater must have a protective system designed by a registered professional engineer.

Excavations under the base of footing of a foundation or wall requires a support system designed by a registered professional engineer.

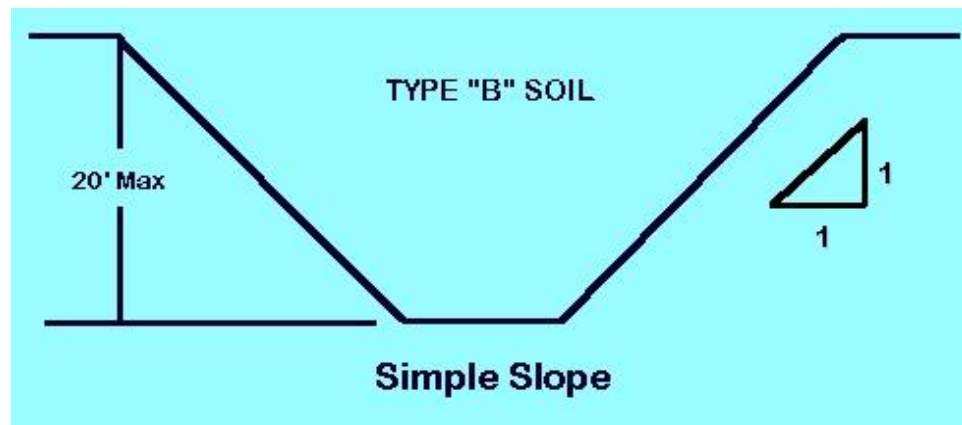
Sidewalks and pavement shall not be undermined unless a support system or another method of protection is provided to protect employees from their possible collapse.

Sloping

Maximum allowable slopes for excavations less than 20' based on soil type and angle to the horizontal are as follows:

Soil Type	Height/depth ratio	Slope angle
Type B	1:1	45 degrees
Type C	1 1/2:1	34 degrees

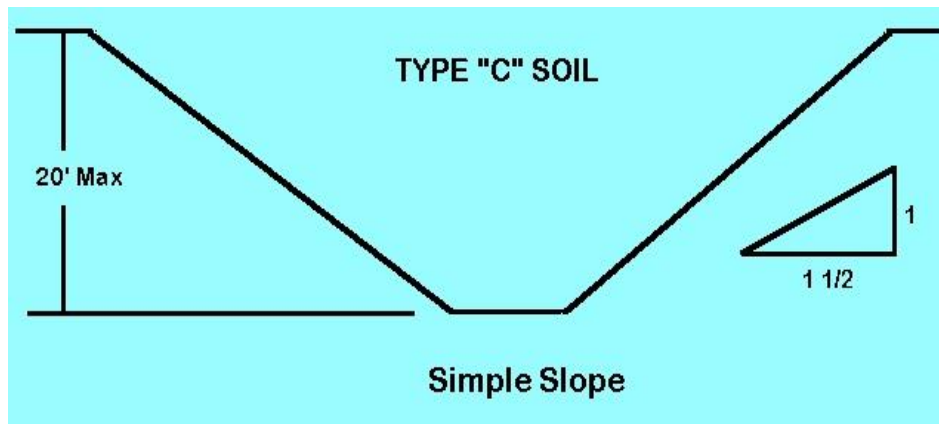
A 10-foot-deep trench in Type B soil would have to be sloped to a 45-degree angle, or sloped 10 feet back in both directions. Total distance across a 10-foot-deep trench would be 20 feet, plus the width of the bottom of the trench itself. In Type C soil,



the trench would be sloped at a 34-degree angle, or 15 feet back in both directions for at least 30 feet across, plus the width of the bottom of the trench itself.

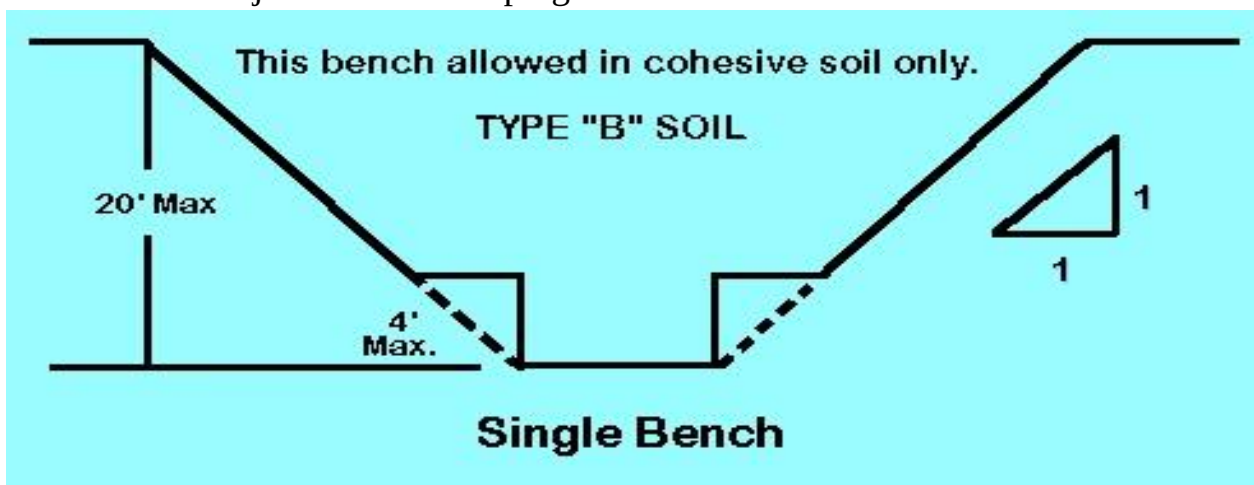
All simple slope excavations 20 feet or less in depth shall have a maximum allowable

slope of 1 1/2:1.

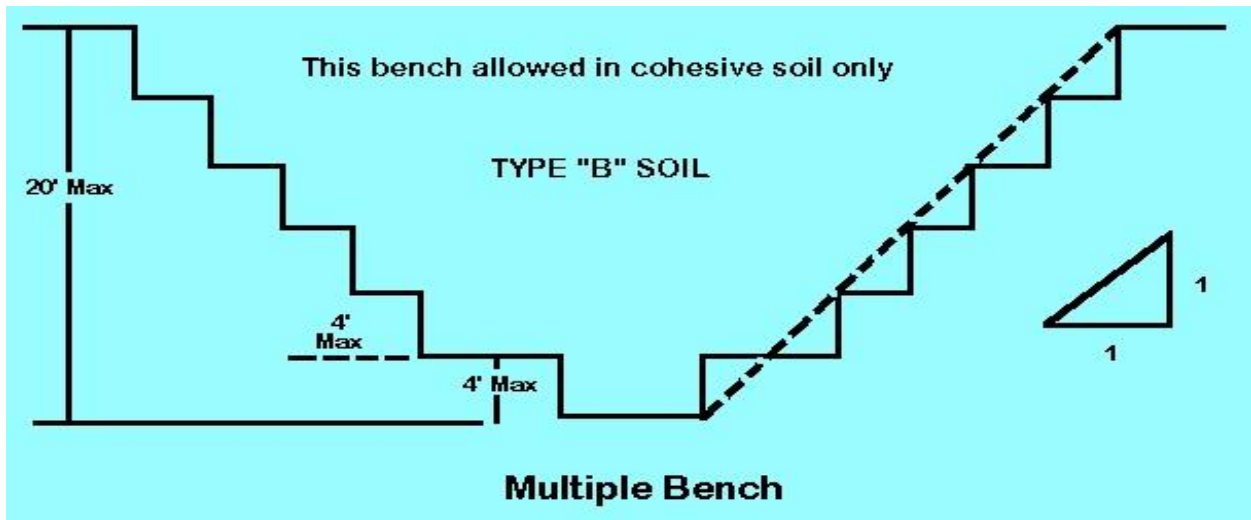


Benching

There are two basic types of benching, single and multiple, which can be used in conjunction with sloping.



All benched excavations 20 feet or less in depth shall have a maximum allowable slope of 1:1.



In Type B soil, the vertical height of the benches must not exceed 4 feet. Benches must be below the maximum allowable slope for that soil type. In other words, a 10-foot deep trench in Type B soil must be benched back 10 feet in each direction, with the maximum of a 45-degree angle.

Benching is not allowed in Type C soil.

Shoring

Shoring and shield devices shall be used while in good repair and maintained. When material or equipment that is used for protective systems is damaged, a competent person shall examine the material or equipment and evaluate its suitability for continued use. If the competent person cannot assure the material or equipment is able to support the intended loads or is otherwise suitable for safe use, then such material or equipment shall be removed from service and shall be evaluated and approved by a registered professional engineer before being returned to service.

Employees and personnel shall be protected from hazards of falling, rolling, or sliding materials, earth or equipment.

Shoring and shields shall not be subjected to excessive forces and shall be installed to protect employees and personnel from lateral loads.

Employees and personnel shall not be in the shoring or shield while it is being placed or removed

Shoring or shielding is used when the location or depth of the cut makes sloping back to the maximum allowable slope impractical. There are two basic types of shoring, timber and aluminum hydraulic.

Shoring and shields must be designed to resist calculated trench forces.

Hydraulic shoring provides a critical safety advantage over timber shoring because workers do not have to enter the trench to install them. They are also light enough to be installed by one worker; they are gauge-regulated to ensure even distribution of pressure along the trench line; and they can be adapted easily to various trench depths and widths. However, if timber shoring is used, it must meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1926.650, .651, and .652.

All shoring shall be installed from the top down and removed from the bottom up. Hydraulic shoring shall be checked at least once per shift for leaking hoses and/or cylinders, broken connections, cracked nipples, bent bases, and any other damaged or defective parts.

The top cylinder of hydraulic shoring shall be no more than 18 inches below the top of the excavation.

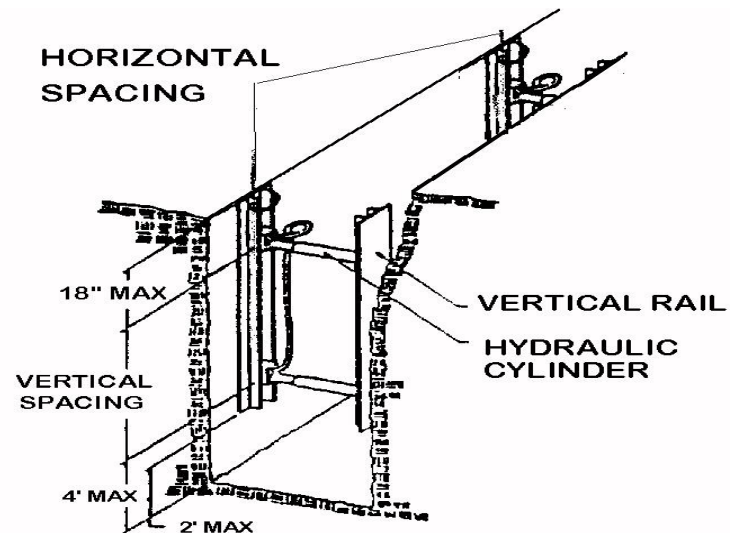
The bottom of the cylinder shall be no higher than four feet from the bottom of the excavation. (Two feet of trench wall may be exposed beneath the bottom of the rail or plywood sheeting, if used.)

Three vertical shores, evenly spaced, must be used to form a system.

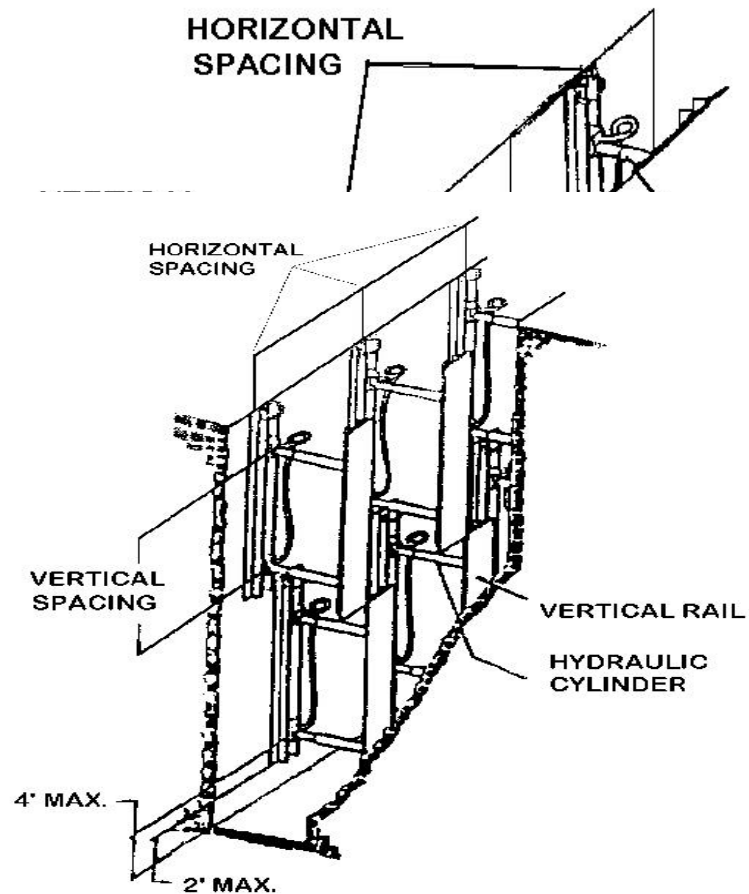
Wales are installed no more than two feet from the top, no more than four feet from the bottom, and no more than four feet apart, vertically.

Here are some typical installations of aluminum hydraulic shoring:

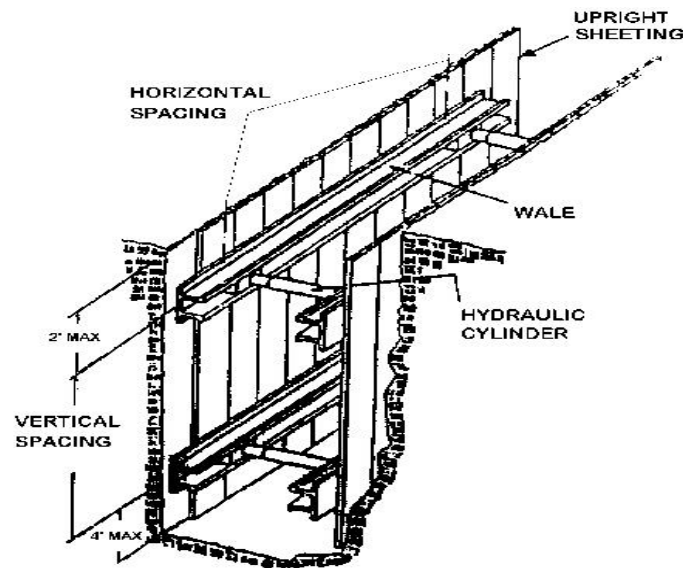
- Vertical aluminum hydraulic shoring (spot bracing)



- Vertical aluminum hydraulic shoring (with plywood)



- Vertical aluminum hydraulic shoring (stacked)
- Aluminum hydraulic shoring waler system (typical)



Shielding

Trench boxes are different from shoring because, instead of shoring up or otherwise supporting the trench face, they are intended primarily to protect workers from cave-ins and similar incidents.

The excavated area between the outside of the trench box and the face of the trench should be as small as possible. The space between the trench box and the excavation side must be backfilled to prevent lateral movement of the box. Shields may not be subjected to loads exceeding those which the system was designed to withstand.

Trench boxes are generally used in open areas, but they also may be used in combination with sloping and benching.

The box must extend at least 18 inches above the surrounding area if there is sloping toward the excavation. This can be accomplished by providing a benched area adjacent to the box.

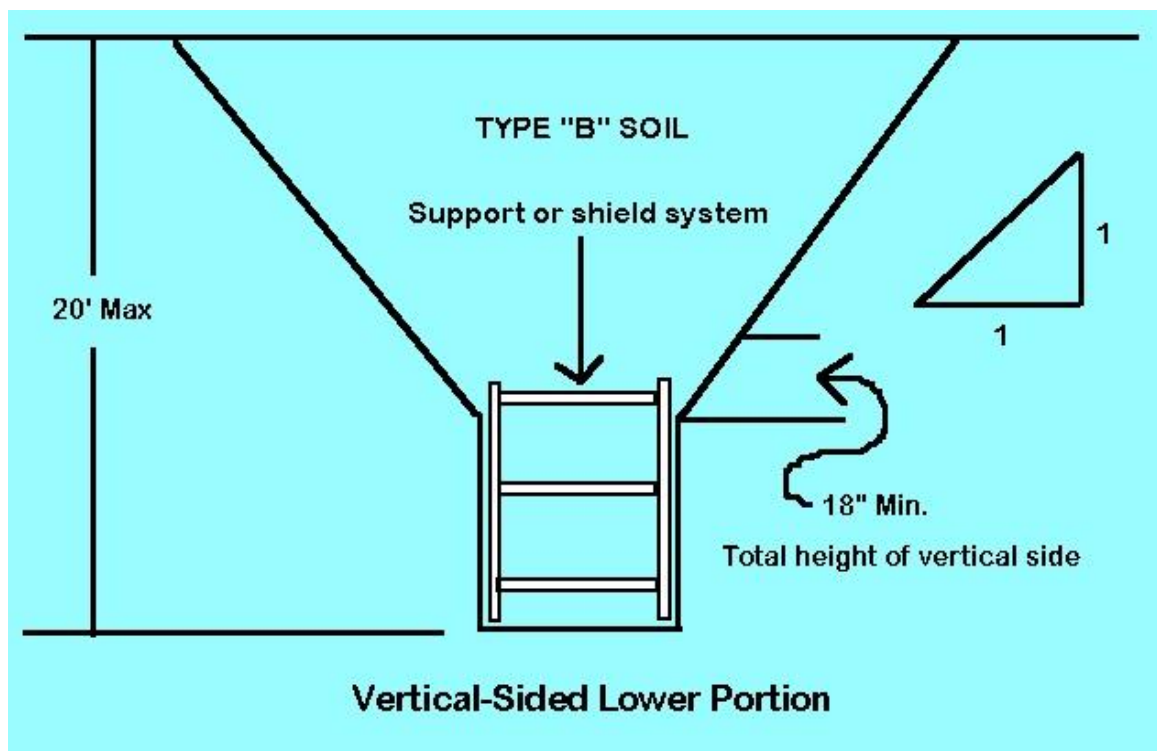
Any modifications to the shields must be approved by the manufacturer.

Shields may ride two feet above the bottom of an excavation, provided they are calculated to support the full depth of the excavation and there is no caving under or behind the shield.

Workers must enter and leave the shield in a protected manner, such as by a ladder or ramp.

Workers may not remain in the shield while it is being moved.

Illustration of shielding systems in B and C type soils.



Protection of Employees in Excavations. Please refer to OSHA Regulations 1926.652

Each employee in an excavation shall be protected from cave-ins by an adequate protective system except when:

- Excavations are made entirely in stable rock; or

- Excavations are less than 5 feet (1.52 m) in depth and examination of the ground by a competent person provides no indication of a potential cave-in.

Protective systems shall have the capacity to resist without failure all loads that are intended or could reasonably be expected to be applied or transmitted to the system.

Design of sloping and benching systems. Employees shall refer to OSHA regulations 1926.652 (b) for design of sloping and benching systems.

Design of support systems, shield systems, and other protective systems.

Employees shall refer to OSHA regulations 1926.652 (c) for design of sloping and benching systems.

Materials and equipment.

Materials and equipment used for protective systems shall be free from damage or defects that might impair their proper function.

Manufactured materials and equipment used for protective systems shall be used and maintained in a manner that is consistent with the recommendations of the manufacturer, and in a manner that will prevent employee exposure to hazards.

When material or equipment that is used for protective systems is damaged, a competent person shall examine the material or equipment and evaluate its suitability for continued use. If the competent person cannot assure the material or equipment is able to support the intended loads or is otherwise suitable for safe use, then such material or equipment shall be removed from service, and shall be evaluated and approved by a registered professional engineer before being returned to service.

Installation and removal of support

General.

Members of support systems shall be securely connected together to prevent sliding, falling, kickouts, or other predictable failure.

Support systems shall be installed and removed in a manner that protects employees from cave-ins, structural collapses, or from being struck by members of the support system.

Individual members of support systems shall not be subjected to loads exceeding those which those members were designed to withstand.

Before temporary removal of individual members begins, additional precautions shall be taken to ensure the safety of employees, such as installing other structural members to carry the loads imposed on the support system.

Removal shall begin at, and progress from, the bottom of the excavation. Members shall be released slowly so as to note any indication of possible failure of the remaining members of the structure or possible cave-in of the sides of the excavation.

Backfilling shall progress together with the removal of support systems from excavations.

Additional requirements for support systems for trench excavations.

Excavation of material to a level no greater than 2 feet (.61 m) below the bottom of the members of a support system shall be permitted, but only if the system is designed to resist the forces calculated for the full depth of the trench, and there are no indications while the trench is open of a possible loss of soil from behind or below the bottom of the support system.

Installation of a support system shall be closely coordinated with the excavation of trenches.

Sloping and benching systems. Employees shall not be permitted to work on the faces of sloped or benched excavations at levels above other employees except when employees at the lower levels are adequately protected from the hazard of falling, rolling, or sliding material or equipment.

Shield systems -

General.

Shield systems shall not be subjected to loads exceeding those which the system was designed to withstand.

Shields shall be installed in a manner to restrict lateral or other hazardous movement of the shield in the event of the application of sudden lateral loads.

Employees shall be protected from the hazard of cave-ins when entering or exiting the areas protected by shields.

Employees shall not be allowed in shields when shields are being installed, removed, or moved vertically.

Additional requirement for shield systems used in trench excavations. Excavations of earth material to a level not greater than 2 feet (.61 m) below the bottom of a shield shall be permitted, but only if the shield is designed to resist the forces calculated for the full depth of the trench, and there are no indications while the trench is open of a possible loss of soil from behind or below the bottom of the shield.

DAILY EXCAVATION CHECKLIST

Client		Date	
Project Name		Approximate Temp.	
Project Location		Approximate Wind Direction	
Job Number		Safety Rep	
Excavation Depth and Width		Soil Classification	
Protective System Used			
Activities in Excavation			
Competent Person			

Excavation > 4 feet deep? ___ Yes ___ No. If YES, fill out a Confined Space Permit PRIOR to ANY person entering the excavation.

NOTE: Trenches over 4 feet in depth are considered excavations. Any items marked NO on this form MUST be remediated prior to any employees entering the excavation.

YES	NO	N/A	DESCRIPTION
			GENERAL
			Employees protected from cave-ins & loose rock/soil that could roll into the excavation
			Spoils, materials & equipment set back at least 2 feet from the edge of the excavation
			Engineering designs for sheeting &/or manufacturer's data on trench box capabilities on site
			Adequate signs posted and barricades provided
			Training (toolbox meeting) conducted w/ employees prior to entering

			excavation
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YES	NO	N/A	UTILITIES
			Utility company contacted & given 24 hours notice &/or utilities already located & marked
			Overhead lines located, noted and reviewed with the operator
			Utility locations reviewed with the operator, & precautions taken to ensure contact does not occur
			Utilities crossing the excavation supported, and protected from falling materials
			Underground installations protected, supported or removed when excavation is open
			WET CONDITIONS
			Air in the excavation tested for oxygen deficiency, combustibles, other contaminants
			Ventilation used in atmospheres that are oxygen rich/deficient &/or contains hazardous substances
			Ventilation provided to keep LEL below 10 %
			Emergency equipment available where hazardous atmospheres could or do exist
			Safety harness and lifeline used
			Supplied air necessary (if yes, contact safety department)
			ENTRY & EXIT
			Exit (i.e. ladder, sloped wall) no further than 25 feet from ANY employee
			Ladders secured and extend 3 feet above the edge of the trench
			Wood ramps constructed of uniform material thickness, cleated together @ the bottom
			Employees protected from cave-ins when entering or exiting the excavation

KEEP 1 COPY OF EACH DAILY EXCAVATION CHECKLIST ON SITE FOR THE PROJECT DURATION, AND FORWARD THE ORIGINAL TO THE SAFETY MANAGER

SOIL ANALYSIS CHECKLIST

Client				Date		
Project Name				Job Number		
Project Location				Weather		
Competent Person						
Where was the sample taken from						
Excavation length, depth and width				L:	D:	W:
VISUAL TEST						
Particle type	Fine Grained (Cohesive)			Granular (sand/silt or gravel)		Other:
Water Conditions		Wet	Dry	Seeping Water	Surface Water present	Submerged
Notes						
Yes	No	N/A	Description			
			Layered Soils Dipping Into excavation? If yes, describe:			
			Excavation exposed to vibrations? If yes, describe:			
			Previously disturbed soils?			
			Crack like openings or sprawlings observed?			
			Underground utilities? If yes, what type:			
			Layered soils? (Note: the least stable layer controls the soil type)			
MANUAL TEST						
Plasticity	Cohesive	Non-cohesive	Dry Strength	Cohesive (broken w/ difficulty)	Granular	
Wet Shake	Water comes to surface (granular material)				Surface remains dry (clay material)	
THUMB TEST Note: Used to estimate unconfined compression strength of cohesive soil.						
Test Performed	Yes	No	N/A, Explain:			
Soil indented by thumb with very great effort?						Type A



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Soil indent by thumb with some effort?			Type B
Soil easily penetrated several inches by thumb with little or no effort. NOTE: If soil is submerged, seeping water, subjected to surface water, runoff, exposed to wetting.			Type C
PENETROMETER or SHEARVANE TEST Note: Used to estimate unconfined compressive strength of cohesive soils.			
Test Performed	Yes	No	Device Used / Serial Number:
Soil with unconfined compressive strength of 1.5 tsf or greater			Type A
Soil with unconfined compressive strength of greater than 0.5 tsf and less than 1.5 tsf.			Type B
Soil with unconfined compressive strength of 0.5 tsf or less. Note: if the soil is submerged, seeping water, subjected to surface water, runoff, exposed to wetting.			Type C

No soil is Type A if fissured, subject to vibration, previously disturbed, layered dipping into excavation on a slope of 4h:1v

SOIL CLASSIFICATION			
Stable Rock	Type A	Type B	Type C
SELECTION OF PROTECTIVE SYSTEM (Refer to Appendix F of 29CFR1926)			
Sloping (Appendix B) Specify angle:	Timber Shoring (Appendix C)	Trench Shield Max depth in this soil:	Hydraulic Shoring (Appendix D)

Keep one copy of each Soil Analysis Checklist on site for project duration - Forward original to the Safety Director at the Main Office