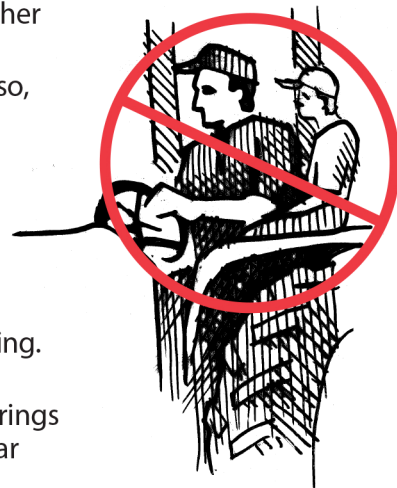


# Be Safe When Operating a Tractor

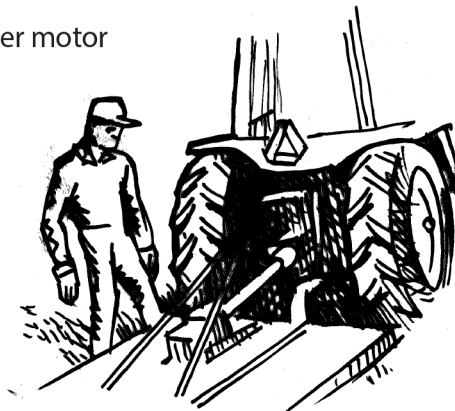
## While you are operating a tractor

- Drive slowly, especially when operating a tractor on public roads, when turning, and when driving on a slope.
- Drive defensively. Be on the lookout for potential hazards. These may include other drivers, rough or slippery terrain, or children playing in the area.
- Avoid driving near the edge of a gully, irrigation ditch or steep embankment. Also, avoid driving across steep slopes.
- Use all safety equipment. This includes wearing a seat belt when you are operating a tractor with a ROPS, and keeping the ROPS in the upright position whenever you're out of a low-clearance area.
- Never allow extra riders on the tractor – including children.
- Never climb on or off the tractor while it is still moving.
- Turn off the PTO before getting off a tractor. Be sure the shaft has stopped rotating. Take the key and stop the tractor.
- Dress appropriately. Avoid wearing loose clothing, jewelry, or shirts with drawstrings that could get caught on a PTO shaft. Put up long hair or tuck it under a hat. Wear sunglasses on bright days.
- Use hearing protection when around loud noise. Wear a hat for sun protection when you are in the sun.
- Follow all state and local traffic laws when driving a tractor on public roads.



## Other important safety tips

1. Follow all safety rules.
2. Never “bypass start” a tractor by placing a metal object across the starter motor or solenoid terminals or turn the key while standing on the ground.
3. Only hitch to the drawbar or other hitch points recommended by the tractor manufacturer.
4. Drive with a raised load low in a front-end loader. This improves the tractor’s stability and your view of the road.
5. Stay a safe distance away from PTO-powered equipment. Don’t check, adjust, unplug or grease any equipment with the tractor running or while the PTO shaft is rotating.
6. Don’t smoke when refueling a tractor. Shut the tractor off before refueling.



Stay a safe distance away from PTO-powered equipment.

## Are there any questions?

**Note to trainer:** Take time to answer trainees’ questions. Then review the Tractor Safety Do’s and Don’ts.

## TRACTOR SAFETY DO’S AND DON’TS

### DO:

- Inspect your tractor before you operate it. Be sure all guards, shields and warning decals are in place.
- Dress properly and keep hearing protection handy.
- Drive defensively. Be on the alert for hazards and bystanders.

### DON’T:

- Ever allow extra riders on a tractor.
- Get too close to a rotating PTO shaft.
- Operate a tractor if you are overtired, ill or have been drinking alcohol.