Manual Handling – General

Cloth	N/A
PPE	• Safety gloves • Apron 🕠 🖧
Chemicals	N/A
Reference	 Safety policies • Risk assessment manual SOP C0002 - Manual handling in the cellar SOP 0F0004 - Reducing the risk of slips, trips and falls SOP 0F0005 - Accident & Incident procedures SOP 0F0007 - Inducting and training an associate • SOP 0F0041 - Handling a roll cage
▶ VideoSOP	To be used together with this written SOP. Tap here to play

Step



- All employees must be trained in manual handling procedures during their first shift in the pub. Refer to SOP OF0007 Inducting and training an associate.
- Prior to lifting, pushing, pulling or moving any item a simple safety assessment must be carried out.
- Assessments must consider the load, the individual, the nature of the task and the surrounding environment.
- Do not carry out the task until this assessment has been completed.

Step 2



The load:

- Carry out an initial check to assess how heavy the load is, eg weights noted on packaging, and how easy it will be to move, eg is it on wheels?
- If the item is potentially too heavy, large or awkward, consider using a trolley or ask a colleague to help.
- Always check that any lifting equipment is in good condition prior to use.
- Consider breaking the load into smaller more manageable packages if possible.
- Check the condition of the load.
- If a box is wet or damaged and likely to break, remove and transport the contents individually.



Step 3



The individual (employee):

- Employees must not attempt to undertake manual handling tasks until they have been properly trained on how to do it safely.
- Ensure employees undertaking any task involving manual handling are physically able to complete the task.
- Employees who are unable to carry out manual handling tasks due to injury or limited ability must tell the duty manager immediately.

Step 4



The task:

- Step close to the item keeping feet apart. Bend knees, keep a straight back and lift through the legs.
- Lift in one smooth movement and avoid twisting the body during the lift.
- Maintain a firm grip, keeping the load as close to the body as possible without obstructing the view of the person completing the task.
- Move carefully to the required location without rushing. Set down the load
 if required during the transit and repeat the same process when ready to
 continue.
- Maintain a straight back during transit. When turning always move the feet and avoid twisting the upper body. This is particularly important when lifting or setting down the load.
- When setting any load down, keep feet apart, straight back and bend knees. Squat down slowly and put the load down gently.

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Step 5



The environment:

- Check all routes are clear and free from obstruction including the area where the load is being moved to.
- Ensure there is enough space to perform the task safely.
- Identify and remedy any issues likely to increase the risk of slips, trips or falls.
- Ensure that all areas are well lit so that potential hazards can be seen.

Step



A risk assessment must be available for any manual handling tasks involving:

- Manual handling of heavy loads, eg >15kg.
- Repetitive manual handling tasks involving lighter loads.
- Tasks which involve two or more employees.

A site specific risk assessment must be available for any manual handling tasks involving:

- Lifting and moving items between levels, eg steps.
- Provisions if mechanical lifting equipment is out of order.

Step



- Do not attempt to move casks or kegs if not trained to do so. Refer to SOP C0002 Manual handling in the cellar.
- Never stack boxes more than five high or above shoulder height.
- An A & I form must be completed for any incidents or accidents resulting from manual handling. Refer to SOP OF0005 - Accident & Incident procedures.
- Always consider whether a lifting or carrying aid could be used before attempting any manual handling task.
- Always check the condition of any equipment to be used for lifting do not use
 if any issue is noted.
- Report all maintenance issues immediately via the property maintenance system.