

Work As One Team Drill

Teamwork and Communication cannot be understated on the FIREGROUND!

Other Variations

Try mixing up the drill as well. The squares could be numbered, or color coded, and must cross the finish line in a certain order. Another method is to have more than 4 squares that the team must go back and forth for, making multiple trips.

By Mike France and Chris Huston

What you will need—

- * Firefighters broken into teams of 4.
- * (4) 24 in. by 24 in. Cardboard squares.
- * Smooth surface of 30 feet long. (Apparatus floor is best)
- * Hand tool for each team member.

Drill Objective -

Members shall work as a team, by communicating conditions, actions and needs, to maintain positive control of their square while moving them across the finish line.

Conducting the Drill -

Each member will be given a cardboard square and a hand tool. The members will be in full PPE (including breathing air) and will assume a hands and knees search position. The cardboard square goes under the knees of the member. This square must remain under the knees at all times. If the square is not under the members knees the member must communicate this to the team. The team will stop until it is corrected. The team will make forward progress towards the finish line, performing a search in accordance with local protocols.(30 feet or so).

To make this more competitive you may time the teams, but keep in mind perfect practice makes perfect. Fast is not always right, but slow and steady is not the goal either.

Conditions for the drill can vary, depending on the skill and knowledge base of the students. The first evolution should be conducted with good visibility, then as the members increase their abilities you may progress to total visibility loss.

