

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

OSHA requires you to wear PPE to protect against hazardous conditions at work.

If the personal protective equipment does not fit properly, it can make the difference between being safely covered or dangerously exposed.

Hard Hats must:

- Be ANSI Z-89 approved
- Absorb shock from a blow
- Resist penetration
- Be water resistant

Type E hard hats provide protection for up to 20,000 volts

Safety Glasses

- ANSI Z-87 marked on glasses
- Must have approved side shields

Face Shields

- Cover the entire face, but don't protect the eyes
- Should be worn with goggles or glasses

Goggles

- Can be worn over glasses when needed

Gloves

- Select the right gloves for the job
- Gloves need to protect against hazards

Safety footwear:

- Must meet ANSI and ASTM standards.
- Steel toed boots are required. Operators may have additional requirements for ankle and sole protections.

Fire Resistant Clothing (FRC)

- Less likely to catch fire
- Self extinguishing

FRCs must be selected based on the hazards and be approved for use in the work environment.

Avoid injuries by:

- Completing a hazard assessment (JSA)
- Selecting PPE based on hazards of the job
- Wearing appropriate PPE correctly
- Wearing the necessary PPE at all times

Only use PPE in safe working condition.

Inspect your PPE for:

- Cracks
- Nicks
- Scratches
- Holes
- Tears
- Brittleness
- Torn edges
- Missing pieces
- Excessive wear
- Deterioration

If you find any of these during your inspection, remove the PPE from service immediately. Damaged PPE will not provide sufficient protection.

Be Sure To:

- Follow safety warnings, and recommendations.
- For PPE requirements, review and follow the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) recommendations and requirements.
- Talk to your supervisor for clarification on what types of PPE to wear.
- Properly put PPE on, adjust, wear and take it off
- Know the limitations of the equipment
- Know the proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of the equipment

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/>