

# Eye Protection Picture This



What's wrong with this picture?



The worker using the circular saw has a perfectly serviceable set of goggles to protect his eyes from flying debris. Too bad he's got them wrapped around his baseball cap instead of over his eyes.

**The Moral:** *Providing* workers the right eye protection isn't enough to prevent eye injuries—and OSHA citations. You also have to ensure workers use the protective equipment properly.

### 3 Reasons to Pay Attention

1. The workplace is full of things that can hurt your eyes like:
  - Flying particles
  - Molten metal
  - Acids & liquid chemicals
  - Chemical gases
  - Harmful light & radiation
2. Using the right safety equipment protects your eyes from these dangers
3. Eye protection doesn't work unless you *use* it properly—which the worker in the photo above is clearly not doing

### THE 5 KINDS OF EYE PROTECTION

The first thing you need to do is select the right kind of eye protection to use. The 5 most common types are:

**1. Safety Spectacles** have safety frames (usually metal or plastic) + impact-resistant lenses + sometimes side shields



- Protect the eyes from flying objects, sparks & dust

2. **Goggles** completely cover the eyes, eye sockets and facial area around them



- Protect the eyes from impact, dust & splashes
- May come with tinted lenses

3. **Welding Shields** are made of vulcanized fiber or fiberglass and fitted with filtered lenses that must be of a shade number necessary to protect against the particular hazard



- Protect eyes from burns caused by intense light
- Protect eyes & face from flying sparks & metal splatter & slag chips from welding/brazing/soldering/cutting operations

**4. Laser Safety Goggles** protect eyes against harmful light produced by lasers



**5. Face Shields** are transparent plastic sheets that extend from the eyebrows to below the chin and across the entire width of the head and may be polarized to protect against glare



- Protect against dust, splashes & sprays
- Don't protect against impact—unless you wear safety spectacles or goggles underneath

## 8 EYE PROTECTION DO'S & DON'Ts

There are 8 things to do/not do to ensure proper use of eye protection:

**DO** clean your eye protection regularly following company/manufacture instructions

**DON'T** use goggles if they're scratched, don't fit right or the elastic band is frayed

**DO** inspect your eye protection each time before you use it

**DON'T** use safety spectacles if they're scratched, bent or don't fit right

**DO** ensure that face & welding shields are disinfected periodically

**DON'T** use eye protection that's not designed to protect you from the actual hazard you face in doing the job

**DO** make sure you actually *use* your eye protection—don't be like that worker with his goggles on his baseball cap in the photo

**DON'T** use eye protection equipment if it doesn't fit right, obstructs your movement or blocks your vision