Personal Protective Equipment – Designed For Your Safety



Safety Talk

Workplaces today generally are safer than ever, thanks largely to the widespread use of personal protective equipment (PPE) designed to keep workers safe and injury-free.

This safety talk looks at the different types of safety equipment and provides advice on its proper use.

Eye protection

There is no such thing as a second chance when it comes to accidents involving your eyes. That’s why it is important to wear eye protection every time, all the time. Examine your eye protection equipment regularly and before each shift to ensure it is clean and free from scratches that could hamper your view.

Foot protection

Proper safety footwear can help you avoid twists and strains, prevent slips and protect your feet from falling objects and boot sole punctures.

Inspect your footwear regularly to ensure it continues to provide the traction and protection your feet need. If the steel toe insert is exposed, the threads are worn or any part of the boot is cracked, worn or has holes, get a new pair.

Hand protection

Inspect your gloves before each shift and replace them if they are torn, cracked, worn or damaged. Make sure your gloves are the right size and type for the job. Gloves that are too small will wear out quickly and make your hands tire quickly, while over-size gloves may hinder dexterity or become caught in equipment.

Workers who deal with any hazardous substance should consult the applicable material safety data sheet (MSDS) or speak with their supervisor to determine which gloves are best for the job.

Face protection

Full face shields protect the eyes and face and are recommended for workers who may come in contact with splashing liquids or flying objects. Inspect your face protection gear regularly for dirt and scratches and clean or replace it accordingly.

Head protection

Hardhats are standard issue in many workplaces. To work properly they must be fitted securely on the top of the head with the brim facing forward and the bands adjusted to ensure the suspension system distributes the load evenly over the entire head. Hats must be inspected regularly and should be replaced when the suspension system is worn or the shell is punctured, split or cracked.

Hearing protection

Exposure to excessive noise may create permanent hearing loss. To protect yourself, wear earplugs that are comfortable and fit well.

Personal protective equipment is your armor against workplace “war wounds.” Wear it with confidence.