

Eye Protection

There are 2000 work related eye injuries per day in the US. 1 in 10 results in missed workdays. Up to 20% cause temporary or permanent vision loss. Experts believe that eye protection could have reduced or prevented the injury in 90% of these cases.

Hazards

- low velocity particles
- high velocity particles
- impact
- chemicals
- vapors
- molten material
- heat
- dirty hands
- non-ionizing radiation (welding, lasers, UV sunlight)

Personal Protective Equipment

First see if you can eliminate or reduce the hazard!

- Safety glasses. Must say "Z87". Regular prescription glasses or sunglasses are not OK.
- Goggles
- Chemical goggles and hoods
- Face shields
- Welding filters and full face helmets, welding screens
- Laser goggles
- Sunglasses
- Hardhats with brim

Keep eyewear clean and replace it when scratched or damaged. Ensure a good fit or the protection can be compromised.

When do you need eye protection?

- power tools
- impact tools
- compressed air
- welding
- windy conditions
- overhead work
- anytime there is a potential eye hazard
- intense sunlight
- impact hazards
- chemical use liquid or vapor
- intense heat
- many sports
- shooting

First Aid for Eye Injuries

- DO NOT RUB YOUR EYES!
- Flush with clean water for 15 minutes.
- Do not pull out impaled objects. Cover the object and eye to stabilize the material. Also cover the unaffected eye to prevent movement of the affected eye.
- Don't hesitate to get medical attention.

