

Safety Matters

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Eye Protection

Work-related eye injuries affect thousands of people each year causing severe eye abrasions and even blindness. Experts believe that 90% of all eye accidents that occur could be prevented with the proper use of eye protection. OSHA requires employers to ensure the safety of employees' eyes in the work environment by providing eye goggles to protect against chemical, environmental, radiological or mechanical irritants.

Remember, Eye Safety Matters!

What are the Common Causes of Eye Injuries?

1. Flying objects such bits of metal, glass and wood
2. Tools
3. Particles
4. Chemicals
5. Harmful radiation
6. Any combination of these or other hazards



Always wear your safety goggles!

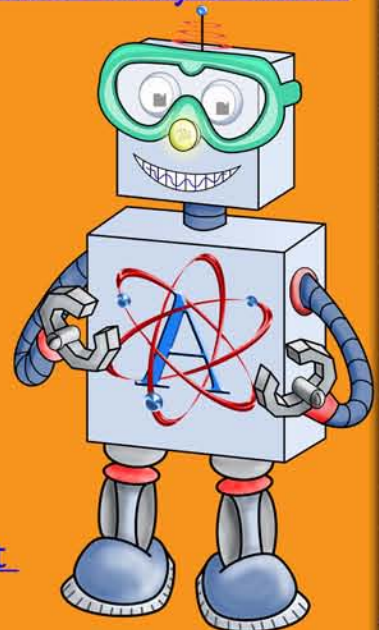
Which Type of Eye Safety Protection Should I Wear?

The type of eye safety protection needed depends on the eye hazards in your work area.

1. If you are working in an area that has small particles, flying objects or dust, you will need to wear Safety Glasses with Side Protection Shields.
2. If you are working with chemicals, you should wear goggles with glass lenses.
3. If you are working near radiation, you must use special-purpose, hazardous material blocking safety glasses, goggles, or face shields.

What is the Difference Between Glass, Polycarbonate and Plastic Safety Lenses?

Glass Lenses	Polycarbonate Lenses	Plastic Lenses
1 Are not easily scratched	1 Extremely light weight	1 Light weight
2 Can be used around harsh chemicals	2 Protect eyes against welding spatter	
3 Corrective lenses can be added	3 Are not likely to fog	3 Fog resistant
4 Are sometimes heavy and uncomfortable	4 More impact resistant than glass or plastic	4 Not as scratch resistant as glass lenses
All three types of safety lenses meet or exceed the requirements for protecting your eyes.		



What is Your Best Defense Against Eye Injuries?

1. Know the eye safety dangers present where you work.
2. Complete an eye hazard assessment of your work area.
3. Eliminate hazards before starting work by using machine guards, work screens, or other engineering safety controls.
4. Use proper eye protection whenever there is a chance of an eye injury, even if it is only your projected path that may lead you into an eye injury.



Remember... Safety Matters.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome and encouraged.



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