



Everyone Goes Home “SAFE”!

Be Safe and Prevent Eye Injury

More than one million people suffer eye injuries each year in the United States. Appropriate protective eyewear could prevent ninety percent of these injuries. Choose protective eyewear with "ANSI Z87.1" marked on the lens or frame. This means the glasses, goggles, or face shield meets the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87.1 safety standard.

Follow these tips to protect your eyes:

Think about the work you will be doing and wear protective eyewear to shield your eyes from flying fragments, fumes, dust particles, sparks and splashing chemicals. Many objects can fly into your eyes unexpectedly and cause injury.

Dust is always present in the workplace during operations such as woodworking and buffing. Working in a dusty environment can cause eye injuries and presents additional hazards to contact lens wearers. Either eyecup or cover-type safety goggles should be worn when dust is present. Close fitting safety goggles are the **only** effective type of eye protection from nuisance dust because they create a protective seal around the eyes. Always remove goggles carefully as debris on the goggles may still get into the eyes.

Nails, tiny pieces of metal, splinters, and cut wire ends fly in the air. The mixing of cement, sawing, grinding, and chipping produces dust and grit. So does heavy machinery moving across a site. Chemicals and welding arc can burn your eyes and cause permanent damage.

When using chemicals, read instructions and labels carefully, work in a well-ventilated area and make sure to point spray nozzles away from you. Many chemicals are extremely hazardous and can permanently destroy the surface of your eyes, resulting in blindness.

Wear appropriate safety eyewear for your job. Many of the thousands injured each day didn't think they needed eye protection or were wearing eyewear inappropriate for the job.

WHAT TO WEAR: DON'T WAIT TO BE TOLD!

Always wear goggles or safety glasses that have side shields:

If you use contact lenses, wear unvented goggles.

Always wear goggles:

If there will be a lot of dust, liquids, and gases or for overhead work.

Also wear a clear, plastic face shield for:

When working with corrosive chemicals or metals that can splash.



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Grinding, chipping, or using a wire brush on welds.

Flying particles.

Sandblasting (the respirator needed for sandblasting has a helmet with a strong shield).

Eye Safety Checklist:

- Minimize hazards from falling or unstable debris.
- Make sure that tools work and safety features (machine guards) are in place.
- Make sure that workers (particularly volunteers) know how to use tools properly.
- Keep bystanders out of the hazard area.
- Identify the primary hazards at the site.
- Identify hazards posed by nearby workers, large machinery, and falling/shifting debris.
- Select the appropriate Z87 eye protection for the hazard.
- Make sure the eye protection is in good condition.
- Make sure the eye protection fits properly and will stay in place.
- Caution—Brush, shake, or vacuum dust and debris from hardhats, hair, forehead, or the top of the eye protection before removing the protection.
- Do not rub eyes with dirty hands or clothing.
- Clean eyewear regularly.