

TOOLBOX TALK

PPE



Eye & Face Protection

When it comes to personal protective equipment, the employer is responsible for ensuring employees are supplied with and use appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation.

Protection Ratings

OSHA requires that all eye and face protections be marked to easily identify the hazards they protect against including impacts, splash or dust, and radiation.

When there are potential hazards from flying objects, employers will provide side eye protection. Detachable side protectors such as clip-on or slide-on side shields are the most common types of side eye protection that meet the ANSI Z87 standard.

Filtered lenses are required when working with radiant energy such as welding, cutting, and torching. Each type of operation requires a minimum protective shade rating to prevent light radiation; for example, heavy gas welding requires a minimum shade rating of 6 (ratings can vary between 2-14).

Prescription Lenses

When it comes to prescription lenses, the employer is responsible in making sure the lenses are properly designed to meet the ANSI Z87 standard by either being part of the eye protection or worn under the eye protection. While it is the employer's duty to supply eye protection, they are not required to supply prescription eye protection.

While it is the employer's responsibility to supply eye and face protection, it is up to the employee to make sure they select the right type of protection for the job at hand. If you are unsure on the type of protection required for work, review the job and potential hazards with your employer prior to selecting the correct glasses or face shield.

Eye & Face Protection

Take Home Point:

Glasses and face shields are the most common types of eye and face protection used in construction. Before you begin a task, make sure you are wearing the properly rated protection (impact, splash/dust, and light radiation) for your job.

Date: _____

Safety Leader: _____

Crew Members:

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