



General Information

Over 2,000 of eye injuries occur every day at work in the US all in which it could have been prevented with the proper selection and use of eye and face protection. OSHA requires employers to ensure the safety of all employees in the work environment. Eye and face protection must be provided whenever necessary to protect against chemical, environmental, radiological, or mechanical irritants and hazards. Always make sure PPE is properly rated for the job, fits properly, and doesn't obstruct your view. Safety glasses and goggles need to have the ANSI Z87.1 rating stamped on them to be rated.

Causes of Eye and Face Injuries:

- Splashes from harmful liquid chemicals such as acids or cleaning solutions
- Flying debris, chips, and dust from grinding and windy conditions
- Flying projectiles from objects colliding, falling, or being dumped
- Loose straps, cords or banding that breaks or snaps under extreme tension
- Extreme heat and light radiation from exposure to flames, welding, or torches

Types of Personal Protective Equipment

Safety Goggles: Enclose the area around the eyes to provide the highest protection against airborne particles, flying projectiles and splash hazards.



Vented – protect against flying particulates but NOT chemical splash hazard



Non vented – protect against flying particulates and chemical splash hazard

Safety Glasses with Side Shields: Provide protection against airborne particles and flying projectiles. Safety glasses are made of impact resistant material and many are available with UV protection.





Types of Personal Protective Equipment continued

Prescription Safety Glasses: Standard prescription glasses are not made to protect you from eye hazards. To be protected, wear safety glasses that fit over top of your prescription (below left) or have Prescription Safety Glasses made for you (below right).



Weld Masks, Dark Shields, and Torch Glasses: Protect the eyes and face from flying sparks, flash burns, and the intense light that occur during welding, torching, and brazing operations. It is important to match the type and tint of the shade to the welding performed.



Face Shields: Protect the face from grinding debris, flying projectiles, radiant heat, and chemical splashes. Face shields should be used in conjunction with eye protection to be fully protection unless it is impact resistant.

