

Safety Matters

Construction

Provided by: Barton Insurance Group LLC

Face Shields

Injuries to your eyes, nose, mouth and other parts of your face can be life-altering. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is important to prevent injuries to the face. In some instances, it's important to use face shields. Review the following guidance to learn more about face shields.

When to Use a Face Shield

Working in construction means that you will be asked to complete a variety of tasks with plenty of different hazards to be aware of. Many of these will be eye hazards dangerous enough that safety glasses alone do not provide enough protection.

For example, if you are grinding materials, sparks can fly around the glasses. Similarly, when working with chemicals, spatter and splashes can get inside your glasses as well.

Each job site should be evaluated in order to determine what tasks and operations will require the protection of face shields. Some common examples might include:

- Torching
- Grinding
- Working with chemicals
- Chipping
- Sanding

Using Face Shields Properly

While face shields provide a strong and sturdy layer of outer protection, they are not impenetrable or all-encompassing when it

comes to face safety. Like any PPE, face shields must be used and equipped properly in order to be effective.

Keep the following tips in mind in order to make sure that you are getting the most protection out of your face shield:

- Wear safety glasses or other eye protection under face shields.
- Understand the specific instructions and limits of different face shields, as there can be a lot of variety when it comes to the thickness of the shield, or the material and tint of the window.
- Inspect the visor carefully before using it, as scratches, cuts and pitting can affect your vision.
- Store face shields in a clean, dry and cool environment away from any chemicals.
- Clean face shields with mild, soapy water.

If you have any questions or concerns about face shields, speak with your supervisor.

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