



SAFETY GLASSES

Safety glasses are a common type of personal protective equipment (PPE) and are commonly used in several industries as a control to protect worker's eyes. Employees working in areas where there are potential hazards to their eyes need to be protected by adequate safety glasses. Construction workers have one of the highest eye injury rates.

Common Eye Hazards & Injuries

Striking/ Scraping	Result from small particles or objects striking or scraping the eye, such as: dust, cement chips, metal slivers, and wood chips. These materials are often ejected by tools, windblown, or fall from above a worker.
Impact	Objects like nails, staples, or slivers of wood or metal can go through the eyeball and result in a permanent loss of vision.
Chemical	Industrial chemicals or cleaning products can cause chemical burns to the eyes.
Thermal/ Heat	Heat related injuries, including burns, can occur to the eye when workers are exposed to high temperatures, splashes of molten metal, or hot sparks. Workplace operations that are especially vulnerable to these types of hazards involve pouring, casting, hot dipping, welding, and other similar activities.

Selecting Safety Glasses

- Ensure they comply with the ANSI Z87.1 standard and provide adequate protection against the hazards that workers face.
- Provide several styles of safety glasses to ensure most workers can find a good fit.
- In general, the more money spent on safety glasses the better the comfort and features such as anti-fog and anti-scratch will be.
- Goggles are often chosen over safety glasses when handling chemical products that can splash or when in an environment with very high dust particles present.

Prescription Lenses

Workers who wear prescription lenses should wear eye protection that incorporates the prescription in its design, or wears eye protection that can be worn over the prescription lenses without disturbing the proper position of the prescription lenses/protective lenses.

Maintenance

- Clean daily by using a glasses cleaning cloth and lens cleaner when possible.
 - Never use soap, household cleaners, or abrasive cleaners on glasses as they can leave a residue, damage, and scratch the lenses.
 - Clean the sides, nose area, and arms in addition to the lenses.
- Inspect daily looking for scratches, cracks, or broken pieces. Even minor damage can cause the eyewear to fail should an incident occur. Replace the eyewear when needed.
- Store your glasses in a hard case or microfiber pouch whenever possible.

Tool Box Talk



- Avoid placing glasses down on a workbench or the top of your head as **SAFETY SERVICES** this increases the chances of damaging the eyewear. *Try using a neck cord for your safety glasses if applicable.*
- Use anti-fog solutions to decrease fogging and improve vision through safety glasses.