

Personal Safety 1 -PPE

Personal Safety - Part
1 PPE

Personal Protective
Equipment - It's The Law

Types Of PPE

Personal Safety - Part 1 PPE



About This Lesson

This lesson is part 1 of a series of lessons on personal safety. In this lesson you will learn about how to select, adjust and use PPE (personal protective equipment). You will also learn about some of your rights and responsibilities under the law to have access to and use PPE.



Learning Goals

By the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Explain your responsibilities for protecting your personal safety
- Identify a variety of PPE (personal protective equipment)
- Explain the use of various PPE and identify situations requiring the use of PPE
- Demonstrate the ability to select adjust and use PPE

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Safety First

It is vital that you fully understand the material presented in this lesson. Failure to use appropriate PPE could result in severe injury and even death. All workers including students are required by law to wear PPE when required for the equipment being used or the work being done and workers found without the proper PPE may be subject to fines and penalties.



The workplace can be a dangerous place. Many tools and situations in the workplace present hazards to your health and personal safety. As a result workers in Canada are protected by a set of laws about health and safety which are laid out in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). The OHSA clearly spells out the rights and responsibilities of employers, supervisors and workers. All workers in Canada should be aware that they have not only rights under this act but also

duties and obligations as well which can be enforced under the act. Employers and supervisors are required by the OHSA to make sure that all workers have access to any PPE required to perform their workplace duties. Supervisors have the added responsibility of ensuring that the PPE given to workers is in good repair, is functioning properly and, that the workers are using it as required. Workers are responsible for using the PPE as directed by their supervisor, keeping PPE in good working condition and reporting PPE which is damaged or otherwise in need of replacement.

As mentioned above these duties and responsibilities are spelled out in law. The Ministry of Labour (MOL) is the agency in Ontario which enforces the OHSA. Inspectors from the MOL conduct site visits and enforce the act. These inspectors have the power to issue fines to workers, supervisors and employers and can even issue a stop work order if they believe a workplace is unsafe or in contravention of the OHSA. Inspectors may also investigate workplace accidents to determine whether or not the the OHSA was being followed at the time of the accident. Employers, supervisors and workers must comply with directives issued by the MOL.

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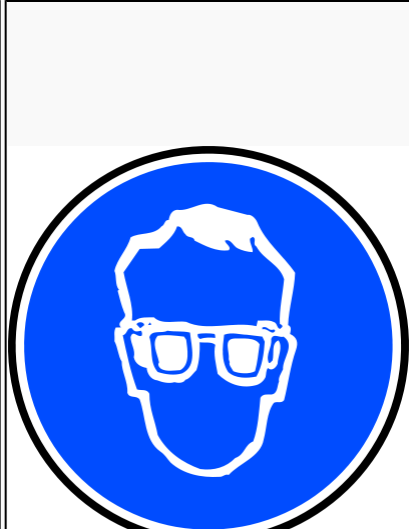
Use Of PPE At School

Types Of PPE



The picture at left shows a wide variety of the kind of PPE you are likely to find in many workplaces. This is by no means all of the PPE you might be required to use in the workplace and knowing what kind of PPE is appropriate for certain jobs and situations is not always easy. For this reason supervisors are responsible for knowing what portions of the OSHA apply to the jobs they are supervising so that the right equipment gets used. As an example, eye protection comes in a wide array

of sizes and shapes but not all eye protection is created equal. Safety glasses may be appropriate for a worker working with a hammer and chisel but they are not adequate for a worker working with liquid chemicals as they do not provide adequate protection against chemical splashes. If you are ever in doubt about whether or not your PPE is appropriate for the job you are doing ask your supervisor, it is your right to know and his/her duty to make sure that you are in compliance with the OSHA. In the following table you will learn a little about typical PPE and how to know when to use it. Mandatory action symbols also tell us when to use PPE and these symbols are also provided in the table below.

Protective Equipment	Mandatory Action Symbol	Typical Situation Requiring The Use Of This Equipment
 <p>Safety Glasses</p>		<p>Safety glasses must be worn any time a hazard from flying debris is present. This would include the operation of any machinery with rotating cutting tools or machinery which produces dust or chips. Safety glasses are also required any time striking tools such as hammers, picks or sledgehammers are being used.</p>
		Goggles provide an



Safety Goggles



Goggles May Be Specified

added level of protection over that of safety glasses and should be used whenever liquid chemicals are being mixed or transferred. Goggles should also be used any time fine dust poses a threat to your eyes. Goggles can fog up in certain situations, if this occurs frequent breaks may be required to clean the goggles in an area where it is safe to do so.



UV Safety Glasses

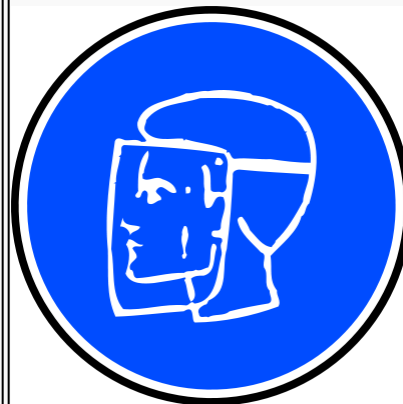


UV Glasses May Be Specified

UV filter safety glasses are the same as regular safety glasses but are commonly used by workers who work outside in the sun who require protection from prolonged exposure to bright sunlight.



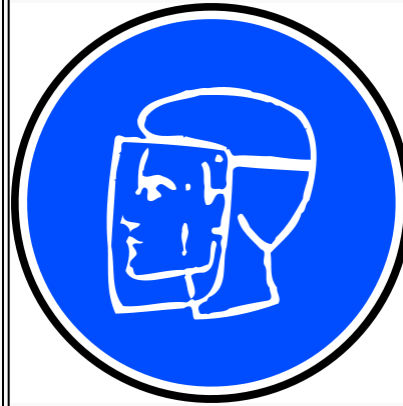
Face Shield



Face shields are used as an added level of protection for your face when working with any tools, equipment or materials which could cause injury to the face. Examples of these situations include mixing or transferring liquid chemicals, machinery which could eject debris that could contact the face such as a brush cutter or wood lathe.



Face Screen



Face Screen May Be Specified

Face screens are used primarily in forestry operations to protect the face from injury from chips or branches while using chippers or chainsaws. Face screens are not considered to be adequate eye protection and are always used in combination with safety glasses.








Hard Hat



A hard hat is required any time an overhead hazard is present. Examples of these situations include construction sites, golf courses, forestry operations, and the operation of any equipment where low hanging branches may be present.

A properly fitted hard hat should fit snugly enough that you can tilt your head all the way forward without the hard hat falling off. Hard hats need to be replaced every two to five years and come with the date of manufacture stamped into the plastic so you can check this. Do not use a hard hat if it is past its expiry date or if the suspension is damaged in any way, have it replaced.

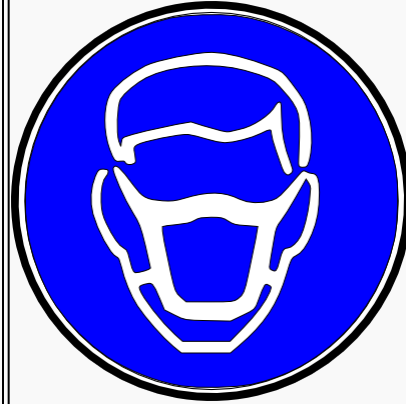
The
hard
hat

		 <p>suspension pictured at left is a critical part of the hard hat. It should be fastened to the helmet by four plastic clips. The nylon webbing should be tight and in good repair and the adjuster should function properly.</p>
 <p>Hearing Protection</p>		<p>Hearing protection is required any time a tool or machine produces loud noise or when workers may be subjected to prolonged exposure to background noise such as a factory floor, or aircraft operations. Lawnmowers, and light power equipment used in landscaping all produce sufficient noise to warrant the use of hearing protection.</p>
 <p>Work Boots</p>		<p>Safety shoes or boots are required for practically all work places, and should be worn all the time. Boots which are high enough to protect ankles are required in many situations such as lawnmower operation and construction sites.</p> <p> Acceptable protective footwear is easily identified by</p>

		the green triangular CSA patch, or "green patch" for short.
 <p data-bbox="561 772 716 804">Work Gloves</p>		<p>Work gloves should be used whenever working with materials and equipment which could cause injury to the skin of your hands. Examples include working with plant material which has thorns or which might cause skin irritation such as juniper. Gloves are required for working with products such as salt or fertilizer and can also help to protect against slivers and minor cuts.</p>
 <p data-bbox="550 1478 727 1509">Rubber Gloves</p>		<p>Rubber gloves must be used when working with chemicals or pesticides. Care must be taken to ensure that the type of glove will not react with the chemicals being used.</p>
		<p>A dust mask should never be confused with a respirator (pictured below). Dust masks are used to filter non toxic dust particles from the air and used more for comfort than safety. Dust masks may be required when working in dusty</p>



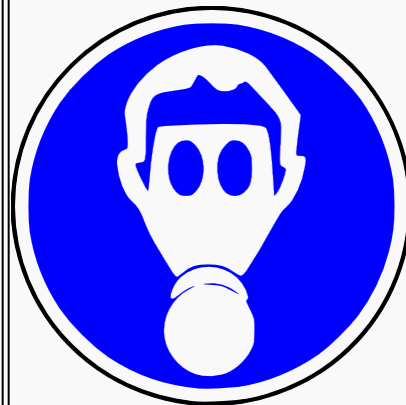
Dust Mask



conditions such as when using a backpack blower or when sanding natural wood. A dust mask must not be used when working with chemicals or toxic particles or fibres such as asbestos, in these situations a respirator must be used.



Respirator



A respirator filters air which may be contaminated with a wide variety of toxins. The respirator pictured at left is a half mask respirator and is typically used in the green industries when pesticides are being mixed or applied. Half mask respirators can be fitted with a variety of cartridges for different applications. It is extremely important that you are using an appropriate cartridge for the toxins you are dealing with, otherwise you will not be properly protected.

A safety vest, or reflective vest, must



Safety Vest



be be worn at all times while working near a roadway or parking lot.



Wide Brim Hat



While not yet a requirement in the OSHA sun protection by way of a wide brimmed hat may soon be law and at the very least is strongly recommended. Sun screen with an SPF of 30 or greater is also indicated.



Work Pants



Protective clothing such as long pants may be required when operating equipment such as lawn mowers, line trimmers and other equipment which could throw material at your legs. Chain saws require the use of ballistic nylon or kevlar chaps or pants, regular work pants are not adequate protection.

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Safety First

WARNING! Failure to follow these rules may result in serious injury and could result in your removal from the class.



When you are working on school grounds or on a school related project you are in a learning situation. Because you and your classmates are learning, accidents and mistakes are more likely to occur, as a result you will be held to a higher standard with regard to the use of PPE. In addition to the posted mandatory action symbols on the schools equipment you will also be

responsible for using any PPE listed as required in the equipment safety information sheets (part of your course materials). You may also be given instructions by your teacher regarding PPE which may not be listed in the safety sheets but which may be deemed required due to the nature of the task being performed.

In all cases it is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with all PPE requirements written and or verbal instructions from your teacher. Failure or refusal to comply will result in your equipment privileges being revoked and possible disciplinary action

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