

Protect Your Eyes and Face

COMPANY

PROJECT

DATE

PRESENTED BY

Grinding, cutting, chipping, welding, and handling chemicals can expose your eyes and face to very different hazards. Flying chips, hot metal, harmful light, and splashes need protection made for that hazard. Before work starts, make sure everyone doing the work or exposed nearby knows what protection to use.

Match Protection to the Work

- Look at the task before picking protection. Ask what could hit your eyes or face: chips, sparks, molten metal, chemicals, or harmful light. One protector may not cover every hazard.
- For grinding, cutting, and chipping, use eye protection with side protection wherever flying objects are a hazard. Chips can come from the side, including from someone else's work.
- When the face is also exposed, select face protection suited to that hazard. Do not assume that covering your face also provides the eye protection needed for flying particles or splashes.
- For welding, have the correct filter shade selected using the welding shade guide. Do not guess from how dark a lens looks. Nearby workers exposed to harmful light also need appropriate protection.

Check Fit and Condition

- Protection must fit snugly, feel reasonably comfortable, and allow normal movement. Check it while wearing your other work gear. If it shifts or blocks your view, stop and get help correcting the fit.
- Regular prescription glasses are not a substitute for protective eyewear. Use protection with your prescription built in, or protection that fits over your glasses without moving either set of lenses out of position.
- Before use, check lenses, side protectors, straps, and face shields for damage or dirt. Report problems that affect protection or visibility. Clean the equipment properly, and get damaged protection replaced before exposure.
- Use protective equipment approved for the task, not an improvised cover. It must meet the accepted protective standards or be shown equally effective. Its manufacturer must be clearly identifiable from its marking.

Stop When the Hazard Changes

- Before handling harmful chemicals, get instruction on their hazards, safe handling, hygiene, and personal protection. Confirm that the eye and face protection is suitable for the chemical and the possible exposure.
- Pause when changing tasks. Protection selected for chipping may not protect against chemical splashes or welding light. Recheck the hazard and equipment before restarting, rather than carrying the same protection into every job.
- If protection fogs up, slips, breaks, or leaves you unsure, stop the exposed work and tell the foreman. Move clear of the hazard before removing protection. Do not keep working with unprotected eyes.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

You finish chipping concrete and are asked to pour a chemical cleaner. You still have your safety glasses on. What would you check before opening the container, and who would you ask if you were unsure?

Questions for the crew

1. When do we need side protection?
2. How should protection fit over prescription glasses?
3. What must we check when switching from cutting to welding or chemical handling?

| Match protection to the hazard, check its fit and condition, and stop if it cannot protect you.

Sources: 29 CFR 1926.102, Eye and face protection; 29 CFR 1926.21, Safety training and education

Drafted with AI for review by a competent person. Clever Rook writes from the official regulation text it cites, but it doesn't know your site. Check it against your conditions and your company's safety program before use. Not legal advice.

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REVIEWED BY (COMPETENT PERSON)

REVIEW DATE

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