



PLAYING IT **SAFE**

Choosing Safety Work Gloves

Protect your hands to reduce on-the-job injuries

A recent study found that wearing gloves on the construction site reduced the relative risk of injury by 60 percent. While you may have no doubt about the need to wear gloves on the job, choosing the right pair may not be so simple. Balance your specific needs with the characteristics of each type of glove in order to determine which pair is right for the task.

Factors to Consider

1. Fit

- Measure your hand circumference around the palm or at the base of the fingers. The number of inches will determine your size.

2. Continuous Wear

- Thin, disposable gloves allow for closer, detailed work that requires the use of your fingertips.
- Thin gloves with natural rubber, nitrile, pVC or polyurethane are not as cut resistant as other gloves, but they are easier to work in and are better for a variety of small-scale tasks.

3. Oily Grip

- Wear sponge or foam-coated gloves that allow you to have a solid grip on slippery objects. Oil penetrates these types of gloves, making objects easier to hold. This prevents you from dropping objects that could cause injury to hands or other body parts.

4. Cut resistance

- Gloves that offer sponge nitrile coatings with a cut-resistant liner of yarns such as Kevlar or high-performance polyethylene offer both oily grip and cut resistance. These gloves are perfect for sheet metal or other materials that present multiple hazards.
- Some gloves have stainless steel or fiberglass yarn for higher cut resistance. However, no glove protects against serrated or moving blades.

5. Durability

- Wear cotton or leather gloves, preferably with coating, when handling abrasive or heavy objects. Gloves coated with NRL, PVC, nitrile, neoprene and polyurethane outwear normal cotton and leather gloves by two to 10 times.
- Gloves with coating offer the least amount of dexterity, so choose a pair with lighter-weight coatings, palm-coating or flat-dipped gloves.

6. Chemical resistance

- When handling Portland cement, wear chemical-resistant gloves that are fully coated with chemical-resistant polymers such as nitrile, neoprene or PVC, which protect from hexavalent chromium.



Keep the Gloves On!

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, hand injuries account for more than 1 million emergency room visits by workers per year in the United States. Don't be the next worker on the way to the hospital – get the right gloves for the job.