



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Eye Protection

Eye injuries from dust and particles, welding light, and chemicals are common on a jobsite. Often workers wear the wrong eye protection or not at all. Although some eye injuries are minor, even a simple scratch from sawdust, cement, or drywall dust can cause lasting pain. Metal slivers from a grinding wheel, or rebounding nails from routine hammering and carpentry can puncture the eye and lead to vision loss. Nearby workers and bystanders are also at risk. Work-related eye injuries can have life-long consequences. Welding light can cause “welders’ flash” and burn eyes and surrounding tissue.

Signatures

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Safety Tips:

- 1. Identify the eye hazards before you start work.
- 2. Always wear the correct eye protection for the hazards present.
- 3. Safety glasses help protect against particles and dust. Look for “Z87+” on the frame or lenses as an indicator of impact protection.
- 4. Use vented goggles for caustic dust, such as cement dust and non-vented goggles for chemicals.
- 5. Use face shields with safety glasses or goggles for protection from flying objects or chemical splashes.
- 6. When welding, use a welding helmet or goggles with the correct lens shade for the job (shade 10-14 for arc welding; 4-8 for gas welding; and 3-6 for torch brazing). Welders’ helpers and bystanders also need UV protection.
- 7. Take care of your eye protection. Replace it when damaged.
- 8. If injured, do not rub your eyes. For dust, small particles or chemicals use the eye wash station. Rinse with clean water for at least 15 minutes.
- 9. For cuts, punctures, and objects in the eyes, seek medical attention; don’t wash out your eyes or try to remove objects yourself.

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.102