

Eye protection: match it to the hazard

Talk 10 of 52 | Week 10 | Daily jobsite safety

Leader: adapt this talk to today's electrical work and site procedures. See the educational-use and liability notice on page 2.

START THE CONVERSATION

Drilling overhead, cutting material, and handling chemicals create different eye hazards. The correct protection depends on the work, not just the fact that glasses are available.

KEY TALKING POINTS

1. Use the eye and face protection selected for flying particles, splash, or other identified hazards. Check fit and condition before starting.
2. Where flying objects are a hazard, appropriate side protection is required. Ordinary prescription glasses alone are not necessarily protective eyewear.
3. Confirm whether goggles, a face shield, or other additional protection is needed. A face shield does not replace required primary eye protection.
4. Keep protection clean and replace damaged equipment. Identify the site's first-aid and emergency arrangements before beginning splash-risk work.
5. Electrical job example: one worker drills anchors overhead while another cuts strut at a nearby station. Ask each to describe the particles or splash that could reach the eyes. Review the selected protection for both workers and anyone close enough to be exposed; distance alone should not be guessed as adequate.
6. Discuss fit with the other equipment being worn. Head protection, hearing protection, prescription lenses, and a face shield must work together without causing someone to remove their eye protection to see. Report fit or visibility problems so suitable equipment can be provided before starting the task.
7. Plan where clean replacement protection is kept and how damage is reported. Ask the crew what they will do if particles or a chemical reach someone's eyes, and identify the appropriate site emergency arrangements. Do not use a live cutting or drilling demonstration to illustrate an eye hazard.

ASK THE CREW

1. What can reach our eyes during this task?
2. Is the selected protection suitable for every person on the crew?

BEFORE WORK STARTS

Review protection against the actual task and resolve missing or unsuitable equipment before work.

OSHA SOURCES / FURTHER READING

OSHA 1926.102: Eye and face protection

Attendance & action record

Eye protection: match it to the hazard

Date: _____ Leader: _____

Company / jobsite: _____

Site hazards and controls discussed:

Follow-up action / responsible person / due date:

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Participant name	Signature / acknowledgment

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