

“Common sense is that which judges the things given to it by other senses.”

~da Vinci

Safety Notes



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QUICK TIPS:

When in doubt, put on PPE. You will never get burned worse because you were wearing gloves.



TECH CORNER:

Some mechanics' gloves come with built-in lights. This helpful hand protection can also be used when grilling out or walking the dog at night.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

State of Florida workers number over 200,000 people in careers that encounter hazards that can be eliminated or reduced through the proper utilization of PPE. PPE refers to protective clothing such as gloves, safety glasses, hard hats, and protective footwear. Many of these items are routinely used by our emergency response teams, but they should also be used in less hazardous occupations when the need exists. Statewide, hundreds of injuries are sustained annually that could be easily prevented by wearing protective clothing. Common tasks like cleaning windows or trimming weeds can result in life changing injuries if the use of proper PPE is neglected. Over the next 3 weeks, the Safety Notes will focus on the proper selection and utilization of different types of PPE. This week, try to identify tasks around your workplace that could be made safer by wearing any of the different types of PPE. Then, after the end of this series, try again. You may be surprised at how many new uses for PPE you can identify.



Getting Started

Completing tasks quickly is not as important as completing them safely. Sometimes, wearing bulky gloves makes it hard to handle small nuts and bolts. Wearing steel toed boots on a hot roof all day can make your feet feel like they are in an oven. How can you decide when and where to use PPE? This week's Safety Notes link will direct you to OSHA's PPE website. These standards should be used as a baseline on which to form your own PPE standards.



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[OSHA PPE Standards](#)