

PLAYING IT

# SAFE

Be safe and healthy on the job at with these helpful tips provided by Cool Insuring Agency, Inc..

## Selecting Safety Work Gloves

Helpful tips for reducing your risk of injury at work

There isn't one universal glove that protects against hazards for every job. You must take a moment to determine which pair is right for you. Here are some important things to consider in protecting your most important tool: your hands.

#### Considerations

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. Dexterity

- Find a pair that feels as though you are not wearing gloves at all; disposable thin-gauge gloves made from natural rubber latex (NRL), nitrile, neoprene or plastic PVC offer the most dexterity and sensitivity.
- Thin, disposable gloves allow for work with small parts, lab work, patient contact and food preparation.
- As thickness increases, gloves become more durable and offer more protection, but dexterity is decreased.

### 3. Protection against Biological Contaminants

 Use disposable gloves, such as medical grade exam gloves for handling viral and bacterial agents.

#### 4. Protection against Chemicals

 Use disposable nitrile gloves when handling oils and grease. They also protect against dry chemicals and many other lab chemicals.  These types of gloves can be layered to provide added protection.

#### 5. Toughness

- 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 10 to 20 times.
- Gloves with coating offer the least amount of dexterity so choose a pair with lighter weight coatings, palmcoating or flat-dipped gloves.

#### 6. Cut Resistance

 If you need to protect your hands against sharp objects, choose gloves with a higher level of cut resistance (Level 0=<200 grams to Level 5=3,500 grams).

#### 7. Handling Oily or Slippery Objects

 Wear sponge or foam-coated gloves that allow you to have a solid grip on slippery objects. Oil is able to penetrate these types of gloves, making the objects easier to hold.

#### 8. Chemical Hazards

- Wear gloves coated in NRL, nitrile, neoprene or PVC when handling janitorial or sanitation products, and fuels, grease and oils.
- Wear butyl or laminate gloves when handling ketones.
- Wear neoprene when handling acids and caustic materials.



## Improve Your Work Performance

Wearing the correct pair of protective gloves will make your working experience safer, therefore improving your job satisfaction and work performance because you will have the comfort of knowing that you are protected.

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