



SAFE WORK

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SPOT THE HAZARD
ASSESS THE RISK
FIND A SAFER WAY
EVERYDAY

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Protective Gloves

Hand protection is designed to protect the hands against a wide variety of hazards in the workplace. To ensure that the appropriate hand protection is selected and used, both employers and workers must assess the type and severity of all hazards in their work environment.

Workers must be provided with and use suitable hand protection when engaged in work which may constitute a hazard to the hands.

GUIDE TO SELECTION OF SKIN PROTECTION

HAZARD	DEGREE OF HAZARD	PROTECTIVE MATERIAL
Abrasion	Severe	- Reinforced heavy rubber, staple reinforced heavy leather
	Less severe	- Rubber, plastic, leather, polyester, nylon, cotton
Sharp edges	Severe	- Metal mesh, staple-reinforced heavy leather, Kevlar-steel mesh
	Less severe	- Leather, terry cloth (Aramid fiber)
	Mild with delicate Work	- Lightweight leather, polyester, nylon, cotton
Chemicals and Fluids	Risk varies according to the chemical, its concentration, & time of contact among other factors. Refer to the manufacturer or product MSDS.	Dependant on chemical. Examples include natural rubber, neoprene, nitrile rubber, PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene), Teflon, Viton, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl alcohol Saranex, 4H, Barricade, Chemrel, Responder.
Cold		Leather, insulated plastic or rubber, wool, cotton
Electricity		Rubber-insulating gloves tested to appropriate voltage with leather outer-glove (CSA Z259.4).
Heat	High temperatures (over 350 degrees C)	- Asbestos, Zetex
	Medium High (up to 350 degrees C)	- Nomex, Kevlar, neoprene-coated asbestos, heat resistant leather with linings
	Warm (up to 200 degrees C)	- Nomex, Kevlar, heat resistant leather, terry cloth (Aramid fiber)
	Less warm (up to 100 degrees C)	- Chrome-tanned leather, terry cloth
General Duty		Cotton, terry cloth, leather
Product Contamination		Thin-film plastic, lightweight leather, cotton, polyester, nylon
Radiation		Lead-lined rubber, plastic or leather

(See Over)

Workplace Safety and Health Division Contact Information:

Winnipeg: (204) 945-3446
Toll-Free: 1-800-282-8069 ext. 3446 (Manitoba only)
24-Hour Emergency Line: (204) 945-0581

Publications/resources available at: www.safemanitoba.com



CHOOSE hand protection that will adequately protect the hands from the hazard.

REVIEW Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and Manufacturer's Information to determine which hand protection is recommended.

ENSURE that the hand protection fits properly.

INSPECT and TEST all hand protection for defects before using – holes in chemical gloves are of particular concern and can be identified by pressurizing the glove with air or water.

RINSE chemical protective gloves with water before removing.

REFER to and follow manufacturer's instructions on the maintenance and care of hand protection.

The accompanying guide to the selection of skin protection is based on the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS).

Factors to remember about skin and hand protection

Since there are many hazards, hand protection can be provided in a variety of ways: finger guards, cots and thimbles, hand pads, mitts, and gloves.

- Choose hand protection that adequately protects from the hazard(s) of a specific job and adequately meets the specific tasks involved in the job (such as flexibility or dexterity).
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for care, decontamination, and maintenance of gloves.
- Be aware that some materials may cause reactions in some workers such as allergies to latex. Offer alternatives where possible.
- Ensure the gloves fit properly.
- Ensure all exposed skin is covered by gloves. Gloves should be long enough so that there is no gap between the glove and sleeve.
- Do not wear gloves with metal parts near electrical equipment.
- Do not wear gloves that may come into contact with a moving part of a machine i.e.: table or band saw.
- Do not use worn or torn gloves.
- Clean gloves as instructed by the supplier.
- Inspect and test gloves for defects before using.
- Test all rubber or synthetic gloves for leaks by inflating them.

Reference to legal requirements under workplace safety and health legislation:

- Personal Protective Equipment: Manitoba Regulation 217/2006 Part 6

Additional workplace safety and health information available at www.safemanitoba.com