



Personal protective equipment



Personal protective equipment (PPE)

is protective clothing, helmets, goggles, or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury or infection.



The hazards addressed by protective equipment include physical, electrical, heat, chemicals, biohazards, and airborne particulate matter. Protective equipment should be worn for job-related occupational safety and health purposes.



The purpose of personal protective equipment

- is to reduce employee exposure to hazards when engineering controls and administrative controls are not feasible or effective to reduce these risks to acceptable levels.



PPE has the serious limitation that it does not eliminate the hazard at the source and may result in employees being exposed to the hazard if the equipment fails.



- Any item of PPE imposes a barrier between the wearer/user and the working environment. This can create additional strains on the wearer; impair their ability to carry out their work and create significant levels of discomfort.



- Good ergonomic design can help to minimise these barriers and can therefore help to ensure safe and healthy working conditions through the correct use of PPE.



Personal protective equipment

- can be categorized by the area of the body protected, by the types of hazard, and by the type of garment or accessory.



Hard hat



Eye protection



Dust mask



Ear protection



Protective clothing



Face Shield



Gloves



Safety footwear



Harness



Welding mask

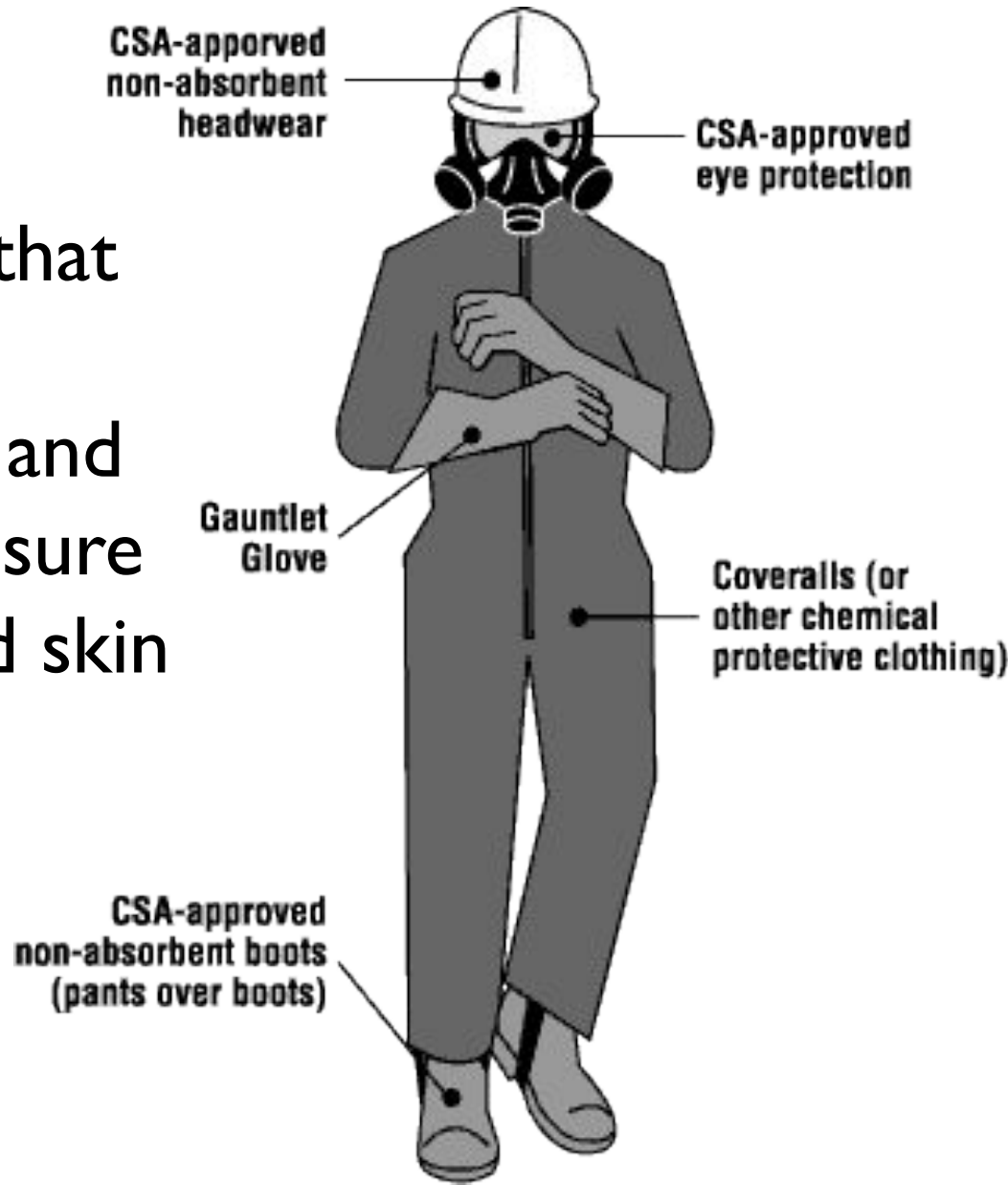
Respirators

- Respirators serve to protect the user from breathing in contaminants in the air, thus preserving the health of one's respiratory tract.



Skin protection

Any form of PPE that acts as a barrier between the skin and the agent of exposure can be considered skin protection.




- Because much work is done with the hands, gloves are an essential item in providing skin protection. Some examples of gloves commonly used as PPE include rubber gloves, cut-resistant gloves and heat-resistant gloves.



Eye protection

- While the required eye protection varies by occupation, the safety provided can be generalized. Safety glasses provide protection from external debris, and should provide side protection via a wrap-around design or side shields.



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- Goggles provide better protection than safety glasses, and are effective in preventing eye injury from chemical splashes, impact, dusty environments and welding.
 - Goggles with high air flow should be used to prevent fogging.
 - Face shields provide additional protection and are worn over the standard eyewear; they also provide protection from impact and chemical hazards.

Hearing protection

PPE for hearing protection consists of earplugs and earmuffs. Workers who are regularly exposed to noise levels above the NIOSH recommendation should be furnished hearing protection by the employers.



Protective clothing

- This form of PPE is all-encompassing and refers to the various suits and uniforms worn to protect the user from harm.

Entire sets of PPE, worn together in a combined suit, are also in this category.





Thanks for attention