

Portable Tools: Personal Protective Equipment Requirements

Department: Chemical and General Safety

Program: Portable Tools

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Authority: ES&H Manual, Chapter 25, Portable Tools

Personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements depend on the tool and task. Requirements below are general; tool-specific requirements are given in each tool requirement document.

For requirements due to specific hazards, working with electricity, hazardous materials, or loud machinery, see the hazard-specific chapters of this manual.¹ For general information on PPE at SLAC, including provision and reimbursement, see Chapter 19, “Personal Protective Equipment”.²

Safety Glasses

Safety glasses and/or goggles must be worn when

- Work may produce flying chips or debris
- Using force cutting tools
- Working overhead
- Hazard analysis documentation requires it

Gloves

Whether or not gloves must be worn depends on the type of tool and/or use. For example,

- Gloves should be worn for material handling, for example:
 - Cut-resistant gloves when cutting materials like sheet metal
 - Cotton or leather gloves when handling wood
- Gloves should be worn to protect hands from cuts, abrasion, and repeated impact.
- Gloves should only be worn while using a powered hand tool when the tool is taken to the work. For instance, when a hand grinder is used to smooth down a weld.
- Gloves may not be worn when using a powered tool when the work is taken to the tool. For instance, when a piece that has a weld is being ground down on a stand or table grinder.

Safety Shoes

Safety-toe shoes should be worn to protect the feet. The requirements for wearing safety-toe shoes are based on requirements in the applicable area hazard analysis (AHA) and job hazard analysis and mitigation (JHAM).³

1 *SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual* (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001), <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/eshmanual/>

2 *SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual* (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001), Chapter 19, “Personal Protective Equipment”, <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/general/ppe/policies.htm>

3 “Hazard Analysis Programs”, <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/general/hazanalysis/>