

Protection of Eyes

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

Reason: On average, 1000 injuries to people's eyes occur every day; 75% by impact, 10% by ingress of foreign bodies (dust) and 15% by burns or chemicals..

Why: The majority of these injuries could have been prevented if eye protection had been worn.

Outline: This talk will cover hazards and wearing eye protection.



Potential Hazards To Eyes

- Using hammers and chisels.
- The use of compressed air and any gas or vapour under pressure.
- Work carried out using abrasive materials where sparks may be given off at speed e.g. using a power cut-off wheel.
- Work with any tools which will result in chippings being broken off e.g. using breakers.

Q: What are the hazards associated with compressed air?

- When welding, ultraviolet light is given off, which can damage your eyes.
- The handling of, or coming into contact with corrosive or irritant substances, such as acids or alkalis.
- Handling and use of cartridge operated tools.
- Cutting of wire or metal strapping under tension

Q: How can welding affect unprotected eyes?

Wearing Eye Protection

- You have a legal obligation to use the eye protection provided in accordance with the regulations.
- Do not go into areas where eye protection is required unless you are wearing eye protection.

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Protection of Eyes

- Ensure the eye protectors fit you and are fit for the job.
- Take care of any eye protection equipment issued to you.

Q: What must you ensure on being issued eye protection?

- Ensure any damaged, lost or unserviceable eye protection equipment is replaced immediately.
- Ensure that eye protectors are comfortable to wear and kept clean.
- If you do get something in your eye, get a trained first aider to remove it – do not use a dirty handkerchief.
- The place for eye protectors is over your eyes – not on your head or around your neck.

Q: If you get something in your eye, what should you do?

Do you have any questions for me?

Questions for you:

Q: What should you do if you damage your eye protectors? Q: What are the hazards when using a cut-off wheel?

REMEMBER:

EYE PROTECTORS ARE REPLACEABLE, YOUR EYES ARE NOT

Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/construction.pdf>

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