

Why PPE?

There are many risks to you in the workplace. Using PPE allows you to reduce your risk of injury or illness, such as:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Puncture wounds, bruises | Severed arteries |
| Eye damage, blindness | Broken bones |
| Internal bleeding | Hearing loss |
| Burns, permanent skin damage | |

Workplace injuries are caused when:

- PPE was not being worn.
- The PPE did not fully protect the worker.

NOTE: Wearing PPE does not eliminate the hazard! If PPE fails, you will be exposed to the danger.

That's why it's important to wear appropriate PPE in good condition — so you can reduce your risk of injury in the workplace.

When is PPE required?

PPE is required when encountering conditions which may cause injury or impairment by being absorbed, inhaled or physically contacted:

- Hazards of processes
- Environmental hazards
- Chemical hazards
- Radiological hazards
- Mechanical irritants or hazards

Remember...
Damaged Equipment
Will NOT Protect You!

Do not use defective or damaged PPE.

Be sure to inspect PPE before each use to make sure it will protect you adequately. Damaged equipment is weakened and cannot keep you safe.

Replace damaged equipment immediately!

PPE at B&K

As required by OSHA, employers have an obligation to provide PPE and to make sure employees use and maintain PPE in a sanitary and reliable condition when there is a “reasonable probability” that injury can be prevented by such equipment.

PPE covered by B&K includes eye, face, head, and extremity protection, as well as protective clothing and barriers.

B&K has conducted a hazard assessment of the workplace, has identified physical and health hazards, and has taken steps to control and minimize the risks of these hazards to employees.

Questions?

Please see either your supervisor or the facility Safety Director:

Saginaw – Rich Reinhardt
Fenton – Brian Hoy



**Personal
Protective
Equipment
Equipment
Protective
Personal**



Eye & Face Protection

Eye injuries are usually caused by flying objects/ particles, by contact with chemicals, or by viewing radiant energy sources like welding operations.

How can eye injuries be prevented?

- Always wear effective, task-appropriate eye protection. It should fit snugly without interfering with movement or vision.
- Make sure you know when PPE is needed. When in doubt, ask your supervisor or use the PPE anyway.
- Take proper care of your PPE. Scratched, dirty, or cracked devices reduce vision, cause glare and reduce ability to protect against impact.

Acceptable types of eye/face protection:

	Protect from:	Use when:
SAFETY GLASSES + SIDE SHIELDS (Industrial grade "Z87")	Moderate impact & particles	Required at all times on B&K manufacturing floor
FACE SHIELDS	Impact, light, heat, metal sparks, chemical splashes	The entire face needs protection
WELDING SHIELDS	Infrared or radiant light burns, flying sparks, metal spatter, slag chips	During welding, brazing, soldering, resistance welding, bare/shielded electric arc welding, oxyacetylene welding & cutting

Regular prescription glasses are not acceptable as PPE. Prescription safety glasses must have side shields added while at B&K.

NOTE: Safety glasses with side shields are always required on the B&K manufacturing floor!

Respirators

At B&K, very few tasks require respiratory protection. If your job requires it, your supervisor will inform you and make sure you are trained and fitted properly.

Head Protection

Protective helmets guard against falling objects or electrical hazards to the head, like when working below other workers, machinery or processes.

Clean your hard hat at least once a month to remove oil, grease, chemicals, and sweat. Store in a clean, dry, cool location away from sunlight.

All of the following helmets provide impact and penetration resistance. In addition, they provide different levels of electrical resistance:

- **CLASS A** – low-voltage (up to 2,200 V)
- **CLASS B** – high-voltage (up to 20,000 V)
- **CLASS C** – no electrical protection

NOTE: Bump caps/skull guards protect only against scalp lacerations. They do not substitute for safety hats.

Hearing Protection

Noise-induced hearing loss can take years to develop. Hearing loss can't be treated or cured, but it can be prevented. Employees who are exposed to noise levels greater than 85 decibels over an 8-hour period need hearing protection.

B&K has implemented engineering controls by redesigning, replacing or enclosing noisy equipment. You can take further steps to protect your hearing:

- Shut down noisy equipment when it's not being used.
- Make sure equipment is maintained so that it runs smoothly and quietly.
- Report noise hazards to your supervisor.
- Use earplugs or earmuffs, but make sure to clean them properly after each use. Store in a clean, cool, dry place. Replace if they become torn, stiff, brittle, or cracked.

Foot Protection

Protective footwear is used when there is a danger of foot injuries due to:

- Falling or rolling objects
- Objects piercing the sole
- Electrical hazards

On B&K's Manufacturing floor, the following are requirements:

- Leather shoes
- No open-toed shoes

Hand Protection

The hands are the most likely body part to be exposed to hazardous chemicals, cuts, abrasions, punctures, or thermal burns.

No one type of glove can protect from all risks. When selecting gloves, consider factors such as the toxicity of the chemical and glove thickness. Ask your supervisor to help you select the best type of glove for your task.

Inspect gloves before each use, looking for cracks, cuts, or tears. Replace gloves periodically; contaminated, worn, or damaged gloves will not adequately protect you.

Work Clothing

Avoid wearing loose sleeves, lapels, cuffs or other loose clothing which could snag or get caught in moving machinery. Inspect clothing regularly for tears or loose/hanging fabric.

Immediately remove clothing that becomes saturated with flammable liquids, corrosive or toxic substances, irritants, or oxidizing agents.