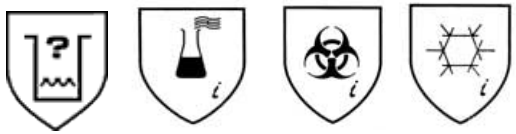
## Gloves Selection Guide

| Glove Material | Uses |
|---|---|
| **Nitrile**<br>*Disposable and re-useable* | Good with oils, greases, some weak acids and bases.<br>Avoid intentional contact with ketones, oxidising acids and organic compounds containing nitrogen<br>Good all round chemical splash protection |
| **Vinyl (PVC)** | Good for weak acids and bases, oils, fats, amines and peroxides<br>Avoid intentional contact with ketones and aromatic solvents |
| **Butyl Rubber**<br>*Re-useable* | Good for ketones and esters.<br>Poor for petrol, aliphatic, aromatic and halogenated solvents and where dexterity is critical |
| **Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA)**<br>*Re-useable* | Good for aromatics and chlorinated solvents<br>Avoid for water based solutions (dissolves in water) |
| **Neoprene**<br>*Disposable and re-useable* | Good for weak acid, strong bases, alcohols, fuels, peroxides, hydrocarbons and phenols. Remains flexible at low temperatures.<br>Poor for halogenated and aromatic solvents |
| **Viton**<br>*Re-useable* | Good for chlorinated and aromatic solvents<br>Poor for ketones and dexterity |
| **Latex (Natural rubber)***<br>*Disposable and re-useable* | Good for incidental contact with phenol, dilute aqueous acids and bases, inorganic chemicals<br>Poor for oils, greases and hydrocarbon derivatives |

**Natural rubber latex can cause a very serious allergic reaction. Always look for an alternative where possible.* ***Powdered latex gloves must not be used****.* ***If un-powdered gloves are used,*** *the maximum free protein content should be 50 ug per gram of glove material.*

## Guidance for the use of gloves

- Select the gloves that is most appropriate for the chemicals you are handling
  - **Disposable** gloves are for small incidental splash or contact
  - **Re-useable** gloves are better suited when immersion is unavoidable
- Check that the glove is fit for purpose – no tears or holes
- Ensure the glove fits correctly
- Do not re-use disposable gloves
- Keep surface of glove clean when working – it may be necessary to wash the external surface of the glove regularly
- Remove gloves in the correct manner – see 'Skin Care Guide'
- Wash hands after removing gloves
- Always remove gloves before :-
  - leaving the laboratory;
  - using taps, phones and keyboards;
  - writing in lab book
- Dispose of gloves in a proper manner
- If you contaminate your disposable glove with toxic chemicals change immediately



Check the packaging of gloves for **BS EN 374** and the symbols above and also PPE cat I – for minimal risk, PPE cat III for serious harm (CE marked)

Examination gloves are not PPE – they are medical devices.
Gloves tested to ASTMS F1671 are resistant to viruses – particles >27nm.

**There is no single glove material that protects against all chemical hazards**

**Contact your Health and Safety Adviser for further guidance on the correct selection of gloves**