

- **Cut Protection** : a range of gloves specially designed to protect the wearer from cut hazards. There are multiple products which offer comfort, dexterity and flexibility.



- **Armllets/over-sleeves**: can be used in conjunction with the appropriate gloves to protect the wearer's arms from the hazards involved in their task. They can be made from different material, in different sizes and comply with different standards.



- **Cotton liners**: are designed to be used underneath other work gloves; specific to your application. There are a number of options and consideration to the task involved must be determined before purchasing.



Specialised Safety Gloves for Health Conditions

If standard safety gloves are causing or exacerbating an existing health condition you must seek further advice from Occupational Health. PPE must be suitable and sufficient" and **fit the user**.

Your line manager/supervisor can make an Occupational Health referral for you by filling in the referral form located here:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/occupationalhealth>

and sending it to the Occupational Health resource email account:

occupationalhealth@warwick.ac.uk

For further information:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/personalprotectiveequipment> or https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/labs_workshops_stores

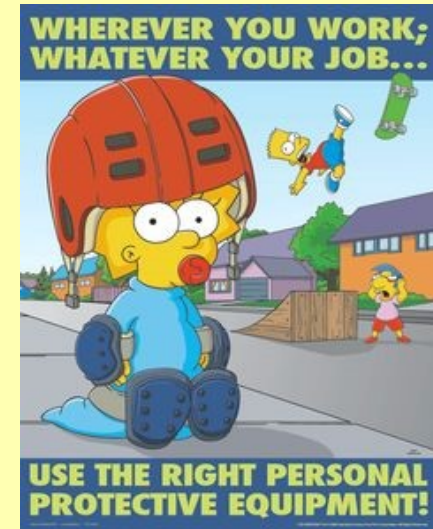
Or Contact

Notes -

WARWICK
Health & Safety Services

Safety Gloves

Personal Protective Equipment





Safety Gloves

All **safety gloves** must meet the minimum **safety standards**. Safety gloves are a form of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Regulations 2002 and the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (as amended) state that all PPE should be “**suitable and sufficient**” for the hazard identified. It is “**personal**” therefore it **MUST** fit and be worn by the user as it was designed.

Selection and use

Before selecting safety gloves **YOU** need to think about:

What hazard/s am I going to be exposed to?

⇒ Mechanical risks, welding, live electrical works, sharp objects, extreme temperatures (hot or cold environments), absorption/penetration of chemicals, microorganisms, hand-arm vibration etc.

• What options do I have?

⇒ Disposable gloves (from numerous materials including Nitrile, neoprene etc.), cut protection gloves, welding gloves, mechanics gloves, abrasion resistant, thermal protection gloves, long cuffed, armllets etc.

• Are the options available suitable and sufficient?

⇒ Is it offering protection from the hazard/s identified?

⇒ Is it suitable for where I need to wear them— indoor or outside use?

⇒ Is it meeting the correct British Standard? Is it CE marked?

⇒ Is it damaged? Is it clean? Is it durable? How long do I need to wear it for?

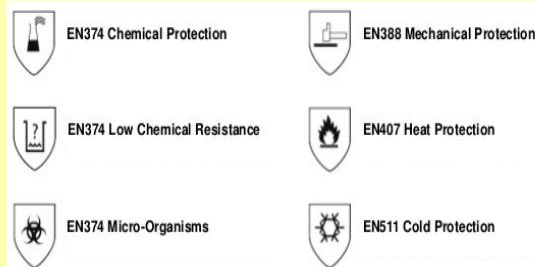
⇒ Is it comfortable? Consider the size, fit, grip and dexterity implications.

Standards of Safety Glove

PPE standards are separated into broad categories depending on the type of protection intended e.g. hand and arm protection. Where possible, standards have been further subdivided according to the hazard e.g. mechanical hazard, heat, flame or component type e.g. filters; face pieces.

General requirements for all safety gloves: EN420

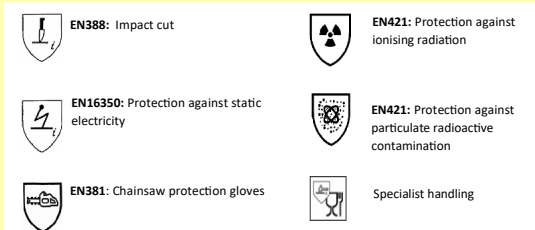
All safety gloves **must** show manufacturers identifying mark, size designation (6 to 11), dexterity performance (range 1: low, 5: high) and any marking/s specific to individual risks including pictograms and additional



standard/s.

The **Microorganism Pictogram** is used when the glove conforms to at least a performance level 2 for the penetration test. The **Chemical Protection Pictogram** must accompany a 3-digit code written directly under it. This code refers to the code letters of 3 chemicals (from a list of 12 standard chemicals) for which a breakthrough time of at least 30 minutes has been obtained. **Low Chemical Resistance Pictogram** (this symbol is also used for waterproof gloves) is used when the glove does not adhere to the breakthrough time of at least 30 minutes against 3 chemicals from the defined list but complies with the penetration test.

Specialist handling pictogram is used for unique and specialist requirements including vibration dampening,



Specialist handling pictogram is used for unique and specialist requirements including vibration dampening, electrical insulation puncture resistance and sharps protection.

Other standards which may be applicable

EN381: Chainsaw protection gloves; **EN421:** Protection against ionising radiation and radioactive contamination; **EN1082:** Gloves and arm guards protecting against cuts and stabs by hand knives (chain mail); **EN14328:** Gloves and armguards protecting against cuts by powered knives; **EN12477:** Gloves for welders; **EN60903/EN60984:** mechanical protection for electrical purposes including live working.

Types of Gloves

There are many types of safety gloves which are currently available on the market. It is important to ensure that it is fit for purpose i.e. will it offer the protection you require and does it fit the wearer!? Gloves differ in design, material and thickness. No glove material will protect against all substances and no gloves will protect against a specific substance indefinitely.



• **Chemical/Microorganism Protection :** Chemical hazards can irritate, inflame or burn the skin. Some chemicals can also cause the skin to become sensitised over time. Some gloves will not protect against viruses, bodily fluids etc. but will protect against bacteria, fungi etc. When choosing a glove, it is important to understand and adhere to breakthrough times, what tasks you are performing; are there

additional hazards? <https://eta-safety.lbj.gov/sites/all/files/VWR%20Chemical%20Resistance%20Gloves%20Chart.pdf>



• **Mechanical Protection:** Mechanical hazards are associated with the handling of rough or sharp objects which could abrade, cut or pierce the skin such as glass, thin metal sheet and masonry blocks .



• **Thermal Protection:** Thermal hazards come in many forms. Heat can be radiated and conducted, or it may be actual flames. Cold can be caused by anything from cold water to frozen gases. It is important to understand the type of hazard and the temperature involved



before selecting your gloves.

