

Safety



Safety Glasses

By Donald Burr

PLC Safety & Training Coordinator
safety@maineloggers.com

Safety Glasses required beyond this point. We all have seen, read, and then disregarded this sign, and if you say you haven't, I am guessing you are part of the 10% who lie.

When I sat down to write this article, I planned to try to convince you to wear your safety glasses and all PPE for that matter, every time, because there is a chance that it could make a difference between a close call and an injury. Seeing that there has been a campaign since the 1920s to get employees to wear them, I was not surprised when I could not come up with anything newer than the old trite sayings. Let's get them out of the way.

1. Eye protection only works when you are wearing it.
2. Make sure that you are wearing the proper eye protection for the job you are doing.
3. Keep it clean because you need to see what you are doing to be safe.
4. Glasses can be a pain to wear. They fog up, fall off, get scratched, and can be challenging to keep in good repair.
5. You only have two eyes. Protect them both.
6. OSHA says (you can fill in the blank).

So here's my angle. Let's be proactive!



1. Evaluate the job that you are doing and be honest about it. Are you grinding? Then you need safety glasses and a face shield. Are you welding? Then you need a shield with the proper tint, and if you are going to lift the helmet to hit the slag off, you require glasses too.

2. Watch where you are walking.



No, this is not a shout-out to slips, trips & falls. You may need to go into an area where there could be flying debris. You hear a grinder running, or a sandblaster or welder working, make sure you stay away without proper eye protection.



3. Make a plan to protect your safety glasses. Have cleaning supplies handy and use quality cleaner. I like Sprayway, it does a great job on my glasses and my truck, and the equipment windows.

4. Always be on the lookout to make your work area safer from spraying or flying debris that could get into your eye or your co-worker's eye.

5. Wear only glasses that meet the ANSI Z87 standard. This standard will be noted somewhere on the glasses. Check for the measure before you wear.

6. Get glasses that fit and give you the protection you need to do the job you are doing.

7. Lastly and my favorite, "Shut up and protect your eyes."

Wearing the proper safety glasses when you need them will give you the confidence to do the job at hand. In closing, when the job is chaos, "Keep calm & Safety glasses on".

Safety glasses are required past this point!