



Eye and Face Protection: Face shields

For all-purpose face protection, face shields are hard to beat.

*They protect the face from splashes, heat, flying particles and other hazards while allowing for plenty of ventilation. They are especially recommended for welding, riveting and operations that involve extreme heat. **It is important to remember that face shields do not protect your eyes and must be used in combination with goggles or safety glasses.***

Types of Face shields

Standard face shields are constructed of high strength, flexible plastic such as acetate. **High Impact face shields** designed for use in a high impact environment may be made of ANSI rated polycarbonate, the material used in many safety glasses. **Wire screen face shields** are used in extremely humid environments.

Face shields may be equipped with a crown to protect against falling particles or sparks, or a chin scoop to guard against chemical splashes. Some shields are tinted to protect from glare, while others feature glass inserts for the best visibility. Specially designed face shields can be fitted to hard hats. A variation on the face shield is the welding helmet; a complete face-and-head covering that protects the wearer from sparks, intense light, and splashes of molten metal.

Care and Fit

Choose a face shield with adjustable straps that fits snugly but not uncomfortably around your head, without sliding forward or to the side. A strap across the top of the head provides support. The shield should cover your face from the forehead to the base of your neck without obstructing your vision. Because face shields are easily scratched, store your shield in a protected area. Replace a scratched face shield before it causes a vision related accident.



Remember a face shield protects your face, not your eyes. Wearing your safety glasses or goggles along with your face shield is the best way to protect your eyesight.

