

OHBA Safety Pages: Eye Protection

Introduction: Eye injuries from dust and particles, welding light, and chemicals are common on jobsites. Often workers wear the wrong eye protection or none at all. Although some eye injuries are minor, even a simple scratch from wood, cement, or drywall dust can cause lasting pain. Metal slivers from a grinding wheel or rebounding nails from routine hammering and carpentry can puncture the eye and lead to vision loss. Welding light can cause “welders’ flash” that burns eyes and surrounding tissue. Nearby workers and bystanders are also at risk. Work-related eye injuries can have lifelong consequences.



Main Message:

- Identify the eye hazards before you start work.
- Always wear the correct eye protection for those hazards.
- Safety glasses help protect against particles and dust. Look for “Z87+” on the frame or lenses as an indicator of impact protection.
- Use vented goggles for caustic dust, such as cement dust, and non-vented goggles for chemicals.
- Use face shields with safety glasses or goggles for protection from flying objects or chemical splashes.
- When welding, use a welding helmet or goggles with the correct lens shade for the job (shade 10–14 for arc welding; 4–8 for gas welding; and 3–6 for torch brazing). Welders’ helpers and bystanders also need UV protection.
- Take care of your eye protection. Replace it when damaged.
- If injured, do not rub your eyes. For dust, small particles, or chemicals, use the eyewash station. Rinse with clean water for at least 15 to 20 minutes.
- For cuts, punctures, and objects in the eyes, seek medical attention; do not wash out your eyes or try to remove objects yourself.



The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE

Topic: Eye Protection

Employer: _____ Project: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number in crew: _____ Number attending: _____

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
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10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: _____

Supervisor: _____ (Print) _____ (Signature)