

Facial protection for welding

Welding involves many hazards that workers should be aware of. When selecting facial personal protective equipment (PPE), it is important to first identify the hazards of the job. Common hazards include radiation, hot slag, sparks, flying debris, intense light, and chemical burns. The types of hazards may vary between different types of welding. After identifying the hazards, proper PPE can be selected.

Select a respirator and filter

The type of respirator and filter you use will depend on the types of metal being welded and the type of welding being done. Keep in mind, there is no harm in choosing a filter that provides more than enough protection for the job. Refer to the filter/respirator manufacturer or a supervisor if you are unsure of what type of filter or respirator you need.



Different types of respirators



Welding helmet

Select the type of facial protection

The type of facial protection you use will depend on the job being done. As a rule of thumb, if you are unsure, it is always better to be overprotected than not protected enough. Always ensure a proper fit with protection that covers your entire face and the respirator. Welding helmets and hand shields are commonly used for arc welding; plasma arc cutting, gouging or welding; and air carbon arc cutting.

Protection from light

When required to use a welding helmet or hand shield, a filter lens must be used to protect your eyes from harmful light. Use an appropriate lens shade that is not too dark or it may be difficult to see. For jobs involving high current (160 amperes or greater), you would typically use a lens shade of 12 or more. Refer to your supervisor if you are unsure of what shade of filter lens to use.

Project: _____ Address: _____

Employer: _____ Supervisor: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number on shift: _____ Number attending: _____

Other safety issues or suggestions made by attendees:

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
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15.		

Manager's remarks: _____

Manager: _____ Supervisor: _____

(signature)

(signature)



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