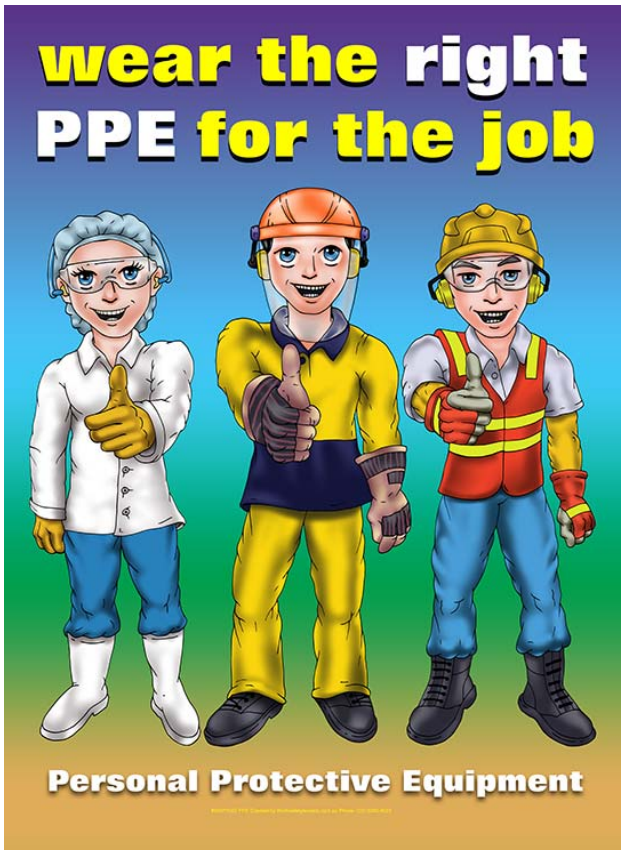
SAFETY TALK

"Talk Safety Up"

Source:
WorkSafe British Columbia
and Smarter Safety

Basic personal protective equipment and clothing



Foot protection
Footwear must protect the ankle, sole, and toes. It is the worker's responsibility to keep personal safety footwear in good repair. For example, exposed metal toecaps could be hazardous near electricity or petrol fumes. Keep laces tied up at all times to avoid snagging or tripping.

Head protection
When entering a construction site, workers must wear hard hats. When using a hard hat:

- A chinstrap or ratchet may be required if your job involves constant bending and your head is below the waistline.
- Keep it clean.
- Inspect it regularly.
- Don't use solvents to clean it.
- Don't drill holes into it unless approved by the manufacturer.
- Don't paint it.
- Don't use it if it has a crack or a deep gouge.
- Don't throw it around or use it as a hammer.
- Replace your hat with a new one every 3 years.
  A 3 year replacement date has been adopted as an Australian Standard. Each helmet, when manufactured, has a year and month of manufacture stamped onto the inside of the shell near the peak for easy
  reading. The arrow in the stamp points to the month and the year overlays the arrow.

All workers must equip themselves with suitable clothing, shirts, & long pants for protection against both the weather and workplace hazards. Unless otherwise agreed upon, workers are also responsible for providing own work gloves, safety headgear, & safety footwear. However, if a product requires specified gloves to protect the user against hand injuries such as slivers and cuts, the employer must provide those gloves.

Employers are responsible for providing and enforcing the use of personal protective equipment. This includes fall, respiratory, eye, and hearing protection, and any other specialized protective equipment required by Health and Safety Regulations. Employers need to make sure that the appropriate personal protective equipment is identified for various phases of construction and is being used by workers.

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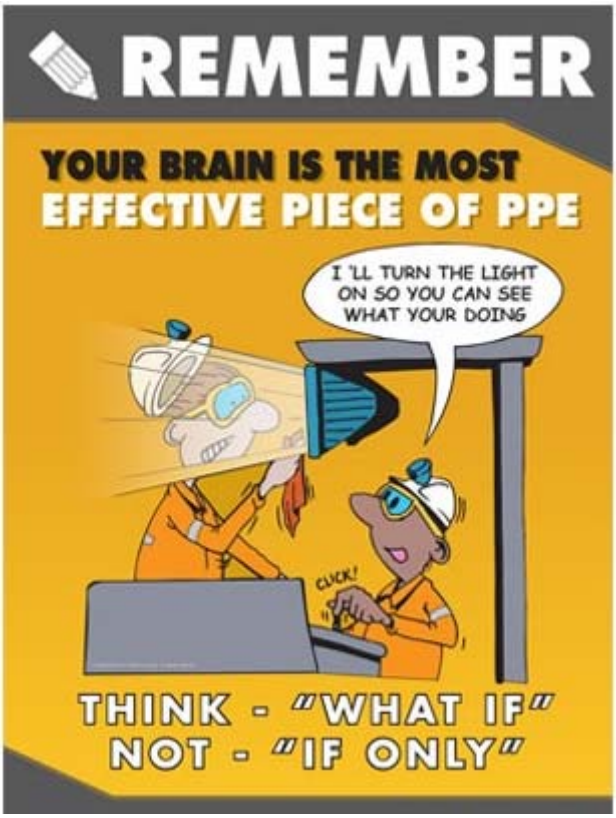
Employers must ensure that workers are trained in the use of specialized protective equipment, including fall protection equipment, prior to use.

Where there is a danger of making contact with moving parts of machinery, equipment, or tools:

- Avoid loose-fitting or frayed clothing.
- Remove accessories such as rings, dangling neckwear, loose-fitting bracelets, and watch bands.
- Confine long hair.
- Wear a short-sleeved shirt and long pants.



Ask for feedback to generate discussion…

- Has anyone experience in this field?
- Does anyone know of any occurrences?

Presented By: (Name & Signature)	Date:
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