



SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



Company _____ Date _____

To encourage all of us to promote safety on a continuing basis, the Builders Exchange publishes a safety tip in each issue of the weekly **Bulletin**.
The superintendent/foreman of each job should use this safety tip in a short safety meeting Monday morning.
We suggest that this 5-to-10 minute meeting be just before lunch or perhaps right after the morning break.
You can then emphasize the SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK all week long.

5 Tips for Choosing the Best Construction Gloves

Week Ending 3/5/2021

You need PPE that is ready to put in just as many hours of labor as you do. Professional-grade work gloves make the job more comfortable while also protecting your hands and keeping you safer on the jobsite. Finding the right glove for the job is as important as matching any other tool of the trade to the task at hand. It is important to find gloves that will protect your hands against the most dangerous hazards. Whether you need cut-resistant coverings, something that can absorb impacts, protection from inclement weather or corrosive resistance, there is a glove to fit that need. Determine the most likely threats to your hands and look for gloves specifically designed to protect against those dangers. Here is what you need to consider when choosing your work gloves.

Proper fit is important

There is a reason we say something fits “like a glove”. There is nothing quite like the snug feel of properly fitting gloves. You want to make sure you find a pair that is tight enough to not end up with mounds of material that hinders your grip but that is loose enough to allow your hand a free range of motion. A well-fitting glove does more than feel good — it is safer. It means less extra material to snag but just enough give to protect the skin underneath.

Get a grip

A slip on the job can be dangerous, so safety is key in construction. Whether you are using hand tools, power tools or just keeping a point of physical contact as you climb a ladder, losing a handle on the situation can lead to injury. Make sure the gloves you choose have the right surface to allow you to grasp the tools and objects you need on the jobsite. From the smooth palm of a traditional leather work glove to a rubberized palm on a cotton glove, options are available to keep your hands from slipping so you can get the job done safely.

Look for durability

You know the job lasts until it is done, and you want gloves that can do the same. Durability is as important to your gloves as it is to the work you do. To be clear, even the best gloves will wear out under use. This comes down to finding the right balance of longevity versus replacement cost and availability. A cheaper glove may need to be replaced more often, but when a longer-lived glove needs to go replacing it may cost you more out of pocket.

Do not neglect comfort

The only people who think construction gloves do not need to feel good are people who have never worn them on a jobsite. It may not be the most important factor in choosing your gloves, but comfort makes it easier to keep them on and keep going until the project is done. It is also a highly personal criteria that involves your preference for padding, absorbency, and insulation. So take your time to understand what gloves have felt the best on your hands and why.

Proper work glove care and maintenance

Once you find the perfect gloves, it is important to keep them well-maintained, so they last longer. Make sure to keep them in a warm, dry place when possible. Leaving them on the worksite, out in the elements, can ruin the materials, leaving you feeling you are protected when the reality is that they are one wrong move away from a rip, tear or slip that exposes you to an on-the-job hazard. Leather gloves should be conditioned occasionally, particularly after long periods of non-use, to keep them soft and supple. Make sure all-natural materials are allowed to dry completely before storage. With a little care, your gloves will last longer and serve you better.

Find the gloves that fit your needs the best. Keep these criteria in mind, and you will be able to narrow your search considerably so you can get the perfect pair.

Special Topics for this Job: _____

MSDS # _____ Reviewed – Title: _____

Present at Meeting:

Supervisor’s Signature: _____

Note: These SAFETY TIPS OF THE WEEK are to help members provide a safe workplace and to instruct employees in ways to prevent accidents. Ensure you record the names of those who attend your safety meetings, and file this form with your permanent accident prevention records.