



Hand Safety - Glove Selection

Glove selection is a critical step in preventing one of our most common types of injury. If properly selected, a glove can offer adequate protection without hindering our ability to perform our tasks.

- **Hazard Assessment**
 - Should be conducted on a Job Safety Analysis or Task Safety Analysis form
 - Involve Supervisor and employees who perform the task
 - Should focus on a particular task

- **Prioritize Needs**
 - If tools, blocking, guarding, or other effective controls cannot eliminate the hazard then hand protection is needed.
 - Use the “Glove Needs Assessment & Selection” tool to gather and prioritize needs.
 - This is a collaborative process involves the employees who perform the work.
 - Ideally, gloves are selected which offer the highest protection while still allowing the wearer to perform their job unencumbered.
 - There is no single glove that offers every kind of protection and performance need.
 - Manufacturer’s now offer some gloves that do offer more than one primary form of protection, such as cut resistance and puncture resistance.
 - There are often tradeoffs between protection & performance. Higher levels of protection sometimes results in lower dexterity and vice-versa. Both factors are equally important in ensuring employees can perform their job well and safely.
 - Ignoring the importance of dexterity in a task will result in employees taking their gloves off to perform a task that requires hand protection
 - If the hazard poses potential for high severity injuries, a glove with greater protection takes precedence over dexterity.
 - If the hazards are lower in severity such as nicks, scrapes, and pokes and high dexterity is needed, then a glove with the index finger and thumb tip removed may offer the best solution.

- **Identify the right glove**
 - If the gloves there do not meet your needs, look at other manufacturer’s offerings and request your choice be added .



- Engage employees, similar sites and programs, and safety professionals to ensure the right selection is made
- **Preparing to order**
 - Determine what sizes the gloves are offered in. Some may offer S, M, or L others use numerical sizing such as 5, 6, or 7.
 - Locate a sizing chart for the glove through the manufacturer.
 - Gather sizes and quantity info from employees. The glove must fit properly in order to do the job well and safely.
 - Place order.

If you have a tool in your hand, you should have a glove on your hand