

# TOOLBOX SAFETY TALK

## PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT



### WHAT IS PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT?

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is any clothing, equipment and substance designed to be worn by a person to protect against the risk of injury or illness. Personal protection equipment may include protective helmets, gloves, hearing protection, high-visibility clothing, breathing apparatus, thermal wear, eye protection, sunscreen, safety belts and harnesses, etc.



### TAKE NOTE

**When risk assessments are undertaken always aim for a higher level of protection, as PPE is the lowest control on the hierarchy of risk management.**

### SELECTION AND SUPPLY PPE

When selecting PPE, all the specific hazards encountered in the workplace and work practice must be considered; comfort should also be factored into the selection process.

All PPE supplied for use at work should comply with the appropriate standards. If there is any uncertainty with PPE standards, information should be sought from the supplier(s) or other competent person.

For more information on PPE, visit the HSE website or contact your local HSE office. For more information on PPE, visit the HSE website or contact your local HSE office.

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# SAMPLE



The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) is a last resort and is required to be used by all workers, office and contractors, who are unable to avoid risks by other means. PPE is considered to be the least effective control in the hierarchy of risk management.

The responsibility for the correct selection, use, maintenance and replacement of PPE lies with the employer. The employer should ensure that PPE is suitable for the work and the conditions of use.

The employer should also ensure that PPE is used correctly and that workers are trained in its use. The employer should also ensure that PPE is maintained and replaced as needed.

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