

# PPE for Handling Glass

V.2 PUBLISHED: June 2017



## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE refers to protective clothing, helmets, goggles, or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury. It is one of the least effective methods of hazard control, and should only be used:

- when higher order control measures are not practical;
- as an interim measure until a more effective way of controlling the risk can be used; and / or
- to supplement higher level control measures.

Where PPE is required by workers, it must be supplied by the employer, and comply with the relevant Australian Standard or equivalent.

Workers must be trained in how to use and maintain their PPE.

It is good practice to provide a choice of different types of an item of PPE (eg. a selection of a few different types of glove), to allow workers to choose the type that suits them best.

Glass can be an extremely hazardous material to handle, and use of the correct PPE is critical in maintaining a safe work environment.

## Requirements

All personnel involved in glazing tasks must use the following PPE:

- **Eye protection**
- **Level 5 cut-protection gloves**
- **Level 5 cut-protection forearm guards or gauntlets**
- **Level 5 cut-protection apron**
- **Long sleeves and long trousers**
- **Safety footwear**

(For further guidance, refer to NSW WorkCover document – *Personal Protective Equipment for Handling Glass*)

'Level 5' is the highest cut protection rating for PPE, and care must be taken that PPE selected conforms to this.

It is a management responsibility to ensure workers are using the correct PPE.

If management believes that these requirements should be varied, tasks must be subject to a detailed Risk Assessment, to identify the most suitable PPE for the work being carried out.

Where jobs involve other than regular glazing tasks, those jobs must also be risk assessed to identify any additional PPE, and other hazard controls. This includes processing, transporting, loading / unloading operations, and those tasks performed on a site that is significantly different to your regular workplace.



