

HARD HATS



Hard hats must be worn correctly in order to be effective.

- Some hard hats are designed to fit one size, while others are adjustable.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper fitting procedures.

Because hard hats are engineered to keep a designed distance between the hard hat shell and the worker's head, it is important to not add any accessories or liners that are not approved by the manufacturer or compatible with the helmet.

- OSHA recommends that employers permit only liners that are specifically designed to be compatible with the protective properties of the hard hat.
- Baseball caps should not be worn underneath hard hats.
- Do not alter or modify a hard hat to add accessories unless it's an approved method provided by the manufacturer.

ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2014 (R2019) Section 5 *Accessories or replacement components, when installed, shall not cause the helmet to fail the requirements of this standard.*

OSHA requires hard hats for employees working in areas where there is a possible danger of head injury from impact, falling or flying objects, or electrical shock and burns.

- Hard hats should be effective against small tools, small pieces of wood, bolts, nuts, rivets, sparks, and similar hazards.
- The use of head protection should never be considered a substitute for good safety practices and engineering controls.
- Hard hats must be worn when working below other workers who are using tools and materials which could fall.
- Any hard hat that has received an impact may have a reduced ability to protect a worker and should be removed from service.

Discussion

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When do you know it's time to replace your hard hat?

What should you do if your hard hat is too large or too small?