

Laboratory Safety Lab Hazard Assessment Tool PPE Selection Guide

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This document is to be used as a supplement to the Laboratory Hazard Assessment Tool in the selection of appropriate PPE. PPE application should be based on risk assessment, which includes evaluation of the hazard and the procedure used, in consultation with the supervisor and safety officer.

Applicable PPE	Specific type (example)	Characteristics	Applications		
	Disposable latex gloves	Powdered or un- powdered	Working with biological hazards (known or potentially known infectious materials including work with animals)		
Light latex, vinyl or nitrile gloves	Disposable nitrile gloves	Puncture, abrasion resistant, protection from splash hazards	Working with biological hazards and chemical splash hazards		
	Disposable vinyl gloves	Economical, durable, similar to latex	Working with biological hazards		
Light chemical resistant gloves	Natural rubber latex	Chemical resistant, liquid-proof	Working with small volumes of corrosive liquids, organic solvents, flammable organic compounds		
Light to heavy chemical resistant gloves	Nitrile gloves	Chemical resistant, good puncture, cut, and abrasion resistance	Apparatus under pressure, air or water reactive chemicals		
	Butyl gloves	High permeation resistance to most chemicals	Large volumes of organic solvents, small to large volumes of dangerous solvents, acutely toxic or hazardous materials		
Heavy chemical resistant gloves	Viton® II gloves	High permeation resistance to most chemicals	Same as butyl gloves, plus hazardous material spills		

Applicable PPE	Specific type (example)	Characteristics	Applications		
Heavy chemical resistant gloves (cont.)	Butyl/Silver Shield gloves and apron	Extra chemical and mechanical protection	Same as butyl and Viton II gloves, added mechanical protection, hazardous material spills		
Insulated gloves	Terrycloth autoclave gloves	Heat resistant	Working with hot liquids and equipment, open flames, water bath, oil bath		
	Cryogen gloves	Water resistant or water proof, protection against ultra-cold temperatures	Cryogenic liquids handling		
Wire mesh gloves		Cut resistant	Working with live animals		
Chemical resistant	Rubber-coated wash apron	Chemical splash protection, good abrasion resistance	Working with apparatus under pressure, air or water reactive chemicals, large volumes of corrosive liquids		
apron	Neoprene apron and sleeves	Chemical resistant, tear resistant; splash protection	Water or air reactive chemicals, large volumes of corrosive liquids, small to large volumes of acutely toxic corrosives		

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Applicable PPE	Specific type (example)	Characteristics	Applications		
Lab Coats	Knee length lab coats	Protects skin and clothing from dirt, inks, non-hazardous chemicals, biohazards without aerosol exposure	General use; Chemical, Biological, Radiation, and Physical Hazards		
	Flame resistant lab coat	Flame resistant (e.g. Nomex or flame- resistant cotton)	Working with water or air reactive chemicals, large volumes of organic solvents, potentially explosive chemicals		
Gowns	Disposable gowns	Clothing and skin protection	Working with biohazards		
	Tyvek gowns	High tear resistance, protection from particulates	Working with biohazards with potential for exposure to airborne transmissible disease		
Сар	Bouffant caps	Economical protection for hygienic work environments; protection from dirt, dust	Working with biohazards, especially in animal facilities		
Shoe Cover	Disposable shoe covers	Protection from dirt, dust; maintenance of hygienic work environments. Adjustable fit, non-skid soles	Working with biohazards, especially in animal facilities		

Applicable PPE	Specific type (example)	Characteristics	Applications
Safety glasses	Adjustable Arm(s) (or Temple) Top Shield Frame Bridge Anti-log Impact-resistant Lens(es)	Polycarbonate lens, side shields for eye protection; meets ANSI and OSHA specifications	Working with chemical, biological, radiation, physical hazards; laboratory work
Goggles	Tight fitting goggles	Tight fitting, protects eyes from impact, spray, paint, chemicals, flying chips, dust particles; polycarbonate lens, indirect ventilation, meets ANSI and OSHA specifications	Working with large volumes of corrosive liquids, small to large volumes of acutely toxic corrosives; working with large volumes of organic solvents, acutely toxic or hazardous chemicals, apparatus under pressure, air or water reactive chemicals
	Laser Goggles	Appropriately shaded goggles; optical density based on beam parameters	Working with Class 3 or Class 4 lasers
Face shield		Chemical resistant face shield	For use with mild acids, caustics, aromatic hydrocarbons, methylene chloride; splash hazard; air or water reactive or potentially explosive chemicals
Safety shield		Acrylic, weighted shield, three sided, benchtop shield, frosted edges	Protects from chemical splash, beta radiation, exposure to bloodborne pathogens

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Applicable PPE	Specific type (example)	Characteristics	Applications
	Surgical masks	Used for bacterial filtration	Working with live animals; working with infectious material with potential aerosol exposure
	N-95	Protects against dusts, fumes, mists, microorganisms	Working with live animals or infectious materials with known airborne transmissible disease; dusty environments
Respirators	Half face	Air purifying respirator protects against variety of particulates, vapors, dust, mists, fumes; depends on filter cartridge used	Working with live animals or infectious materials with known airborne transmissible disease; dusty environments; chemical vapors; particulates
	Full face	Same as half- face, but with greater protection factor, and greater protection of eyes and face; depends on filter cartridge used	Working with live animals or infectious materials with known airborne transmissible disease; dusty environments; chemical vapors; particulates
	PAPR	Air supplying respirator; delivers steady supply of filtered air with loose fitting hoods	Working in BSL – 3 environments; working in dusty environments; chemical vapors, particulates; used when full- face or half –face respirator doesn't fit individual

CHEMICAL	Butyl Rubber	Chlorinated Polyethylene	Vitron/ Neoprene	Natural Rubber	Neoprene	Nitrile + Polyvinyl Chloride	Nitrile	Polyethylene	Polyvinyl Alcohol	Polyvinyl Chloride	Vitron	Butyl neoprene	Other Materials*
Acetic acid, glacial	RR R	NN rr		NN nn	NN RR	NN NN	NN RR	NN nn	nn n	NN NN	NN rr		Yes Yes
Acetone Acetonitrile Ammonium	RR RR	NN rr	nn	NN NN	NN NN	nn	NN NN	NN NN	NN rr	NN NN	NN rr	rr	Yes Yes
hydroxide	R	r		rr	rr	NN	rr	NN	n	NN	r		Yes
Amyl alcohol Aniline Benzaldehyde Benzene Butyl acetate	rr RR rr NN rr	r n nn r	r rr n rr	NN NN nn NN NN	RR NN nn NN NN	NN NN n NN nn	nn nn nn NN NN	nn NN NN NN	rr RR RR NN rr	NN NN N NN	rr NN n nn nn	r r r	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Butyl alcohol Butane Butyraldehyde Calcium hypochlorite Carbon disulfide	R n nn r NN	r NN	n	nn N R R	RR R nn R	nn r r	RR n r	RR NN	nn nn RR	nn N R R	r r nn	r	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Carbon Tetrachloride Chloroacetone Chloroform Chromic acid Cyclohexane	N N n N	nn r NN r	r r r	NN n NN NN	NN n NN N	NN R n RR n	N n NN N RR	NN rr NN	RR RR nn	NN N NN RR NN	rr rr r RR	n r n	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Dibenzyl ether Diethanolamine Diethyl ether Dimethyl sulfoxide Ethyl acetate	r rr NN n	r rr nn	n n n	N n NN RR NN	R rr NN RR NN	r n nn rr nn	r nn NN nn NN	NN rr NN	RR n	R r nn NN nn	rr NN n	r n n	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Ethyl alcohol Ethylene glycol Ethylene trichloride Formaldehyde, 37% Formic acied, 90%	R NN RR R	r nn rr r	r r	RR NN NN R	rr NN NN R	RR NN nn R	RR NN NN r	RR NN RR NN	rr rr NN n	nn NN NN R	r NN RR n	r n r	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Glycerol Hexane Hydrobromic acid Hydrochloric acid,	r NN r	rr	r	r NN r	R NN R	r NN r	R NN	NN	RR	r NN R	RR	r	Yes Yes Yes
conc. Hydrofluoric acid	nn	rr	rr r	rr RR	RR rr	RR NN	rr nn	rr	n	NN nn	rr r	rr r	Yes Yes

Hydrogen peroxide	nn	rr	r	r	R	r	n			nn	r	r	Yes
Isobutyl alcohol	rr		r	nn	NN	NN	RR	NN	n	NN	rr	r	Yes
Methylamine	r			nn	rr		rr		n	rr			Yes
Methyl alcohol	rr	rr	rr	NN	nn	rr	Yes						
Methyl chloride	n			Ν	n	n	n	n		Ν			Yes
Methylene chloride	NN	nn	r	NN	nn	n	Yes						
Methyl ethyl ketone		RR	nn	NN	NN	Yes							
Naphthalene	Ν	rr	r	Ν	nn	NN	rr	NN	rr	NN	r	n	Yes
Nitric acid	n	nn		nn	n	NN	nn	nn	n	NN	rr		Yes
Perchloric acid	r		r	Ν	rr	rr	rr	rr		rr	r	r	Yes
													Yes
Phenol	R	nn		NN	nn	n	NN	rr	nn	NN	n		Yes
Phosphoric acid,													12072
conc	r			rr	rr	rr	rr	rr	n	rr			Yes
Potassium										100000			12112
hydroxide	r			R	R	r	R			R	n		Yes
Pyridine	r			NN	NN		NN	rr			n		Yes
Sodium Hydroxide	n	rr		R	R	n	R	rr		rr			Yes
													Yes
Sulfuric acid	n	RR	rr	Ν	rr	nn	n	rr		NN	rr	rr	Yes
Toluene	NN	Γ	rr	NN	nn		Yes						
Trichloroethylene	NN	nn		NN	nn		Yes						
Triethanoiamine	r	Γ	Γ	Ν	R	rr	R	rr		rr	n	r	Yes
Xylene	n	n	r	NN	NN	NN	NN	NN	RR	NN	rr	n	Yes

Source: Guidelines for the selection of Chemical Protective Clothing. 1987. American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, Inc. Cincinnati, Ohio

Legend

RR= recommended based on strong data rr=recommended based on data R=recommended based on judgement NN= not recommended based on strong data nn= not recommended based on data n= not recommended based on judgement

^{*}other materials are recommended. Consult the Source or vendor's glove selection charts.