

PPE Foot Protection

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Keeping your feet safe on the job means protecting them from a spectrum of potential hazards, including skin infections, crushing injuries, exposure to electricity, chemicals, extreme temperatures, or sharps, and other common worksite hazards.

Before beginning work, conduct a job hazard analysis to determine the need of foot protection to prevent injury.

Safety Shoes

Safety shoes are designed to protect feet against crushing injuries and typically include reinforced steel toe boxes. Shoes with fiber or plastic reinforcements are also available for applications where electrical insulation is also required, but these shoes may not be listed in recognized standards.

Other common specialized models of safety shoes include the following:

- Conductive, for use in environments with high static electricity
- Foundry, for use in heat-producing environments
- Non-sparking, for use with flammable materials or environments
- Shock resistant, for use in areas with electrical hazards
- Metatarsal, which provides protection for the top of the foot as well as the toe

Other Forms of Foot Protection

- Attachable guards that protect the top and sides of the foot
- Rubber shoes and foot coverings
- Shoes with specialized soles, such as wooden or slip resistant
- Shoe liners
- Disposable fabric shoe covers
- High-performance socks, such as thermal or moisture-wicking