

Safety Eyewear Guide

Acts, regulations and compliance

For more information:
Call **0870 850 0055**
email **contactus@cromwell.co.uk**
or contact your local sales representative



How we can help your business.

Keeping Industry Working™

With the experience of supplying industry for over 50 years, you can rely on us to provide you with amazing service, expert advice and an extensive range of high quality products.

Save Time & Money

We are committed to delivering a customer focused and cost-effective service that successfully matches your needs. Supplying a large range of competitively priced products from trusted global brands to our own brands, you can count on us to provide you with improved efficiency and productivity.

Technical Expertise & Support

We provide intelligent safety solutions that add tangible value and are recognized for offering sound technical advice. As part of this commitment we have a team of PPE & Safety technical specialists, supporting our customers on product, exposure to risk and compliance.







Why wear Eye/Face protection?

Our eyesight is precious; imagine not being able to see as clearly or losing your vision all together. As one of our main senses it affords us a quality of life. Yet some choose not to protect their eyes in hazardous environments through poorly chosen or fitting PPE or by even not wearing it at all. Eye and face protection not only lowers the potential severity of an accident but can save your vision completely.

90% of all eye injuries are estimated to be preventable with the correct choice and wearing of PPE.



The Legislation

Eye and face protection is covered by a number of laws, acts and guidelines including;

The Health and Safety at Work Act etc. Act 1974

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 199

Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002

Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992

Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 2002

There are also a number of supporting standards for safety eyewear with lenses carrying clear markings on them. Dictated by both numbers and letters they can be difficult to understand but relate to specific EN standards. It is important to understand the different types of eye and face protection and ultimately the standards they are required to meet before choosing the right product.

Choosing the right product

Firstly, understand why you need eye protection. What hazards are you protecting from and what is the likelihood of an accident? By understanding the risk you are well placed to begin looking for the correct solution in both style, fit and protection level.

It is important that on choosing a style the wearer is fully trained in fitting, cleaning and care of the product. Users should understand and demonstrate they can follow the fitting instructions as well as when to clean and how to store their PPE.

Eye protection can be awkward for the wearer especially if they aren't used to wearing spectacles. Glasses and visors can often give a feeling of distortion when they are first worn and it's important that the wearer feels comfortable in the optical clarity and not just the protection of their eyes and face. Choosing the right product to fit around the ears and adjust to the wearers head will ultimately lead to the user wearing the product for longer periods without feeling the need to remove it for a break and potentially putting themselves at risk.

Standard wear and tear can decrease the optical quality of the product so users should have ready access to lens cleaning products and storage methods. Eye protection needs to provide good vision including periphery. Some styles are lightweight for added comfort and many have anti-fog and anti-scratch coatings for tough environments and when worn in conjunction with other facial PPE.

Clean your safety eyewear regularly

The main types of eye and face protection are:

Safety spectacles:

These may take the form of separate lenses in a metal or plastic frame, similar in appearance to prescription glasses, or have a single lens/frame moulding.

Most designs have side-shields. Spectacles can incorporate corrective lenses, while overglasses may fit over prescription glasses.

Safety Glasses standards;

EN166 standard covering safety eyewear offering protection from impact hazards caused by fast moving particles.

EN170 standard that applies to ultraviolet filters

EN172 specified for sunglare filters and in eye-protectors for industrial use

EN166 Markings

1 specifies the lens clarity of which 1 is the best

F denotes the impact protection (low energy impact @45 metres per second)

T indicates the frame can withstand impact at high and low temperatures

K The lens is coated to be anti scratch

N the lens is coated to be resistant to fogging

These will be generally out of eye shot on the lens as **1FTKN, 1FTK, 1FT**

Goggles:

These are made with a flexible plastic frame and one or two lenses with a flexible plastic headband. They give the eyes protection from all angles as the complete rim is in contact with the face.

Some goggles are ventilated and may be unsuitable for protection against fine dusts.

EN166 standard covering safety eyewear offering protection from impact hazards caused by fast moving particles.

EN170 standard that applies to ultraviolet filters

Goggles can also be anti-mist anti / scratch coated

B denotes the impact protection (low energy impact @120 metres per second)

Visors/faceshields:

These have one large lens with a frame and adjustable head harness or are mounted on a helmet. Most can be worn with prescription glasses.

They protect the face BUT do not fully enclose the eyes.

EN166 standard covering safety eyewear offering protection from impact hazards caused by fast moving particles.

EN169 for protection that features filters for welding and related techniques

EN170 standard that applies to ultraviolet filters

EN172 specified for sunglare filters and in eye-protectors for industrial use

IMPACT STRENGTH B rated

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Safety Glasses

Safety glasses are designed to provide protection and clarity of vision. The majority of the products are wrap around style which minimise the gaps between the glasses and the wearers face reducing the risk of an accident.



Goggles

Goggles can provide additional protection levels than safety glasses. Higher impact levels at B rating. They also provide protection against dusts and liquid splashes.



Face Shields

Offer the highest level of protection with a wide unobstructed field of view.



Prescription Safety Glasses

Cromwell are able to provide a wide range of frames in metal, plastic and wraparound frame styles to suit your prescription requirements. Our service offers single vision, bifocal or varifocal with scratch resistant coatings and storage cases.

