

R.O.I.I.<sup>®</sup> SELECT SAFETY TIP

# FITS LIKE A GLOVE

A SMALL INVESTMENT CAN GO A LONG WAY TO PREVENTING A COMMONLY REPORTED INJURY CLAIM

Remember the old adage, “fits like a glove”?

Without a doubt, once the right glove with the perfect fit is found, a glove can be an incredible asset to any construction worker.

For employers, it’s also the simplest way to help reduce injuries and claim costs.

How do you find the right glove with the perfect fit? After researching



types and styles, have your employees participate in choosing a glove for personal protective equipment (PPE). Gloves are specific to each individual and the tasks to be performed, so think about bringing in a few types to try.

Also, at around \$10 a pair, gloves are one of the best returns on investment you can make. Remember: if your employees don’t like it, they are less likely to wear it. That’s not protecting them from injuries or you from claim costs and time lost on the job.

With over 27 bones and 123 ligaments in the hand, it’s important workers use the proper protection. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, more than 1 million workers go to the emergency room with hand injuries each year, and

110,000 incidents resulted in lost time. Overall, 70% of hand injuries are sustained by workers not wearing gloves and the other 30% are wearing inappropriate gloves.

What most people don’t know is that wearing gloves is only half the challenge for injury prevention—*wearing the right glove* is the other half.

Gloves should fit snugly and allow for full range of motion of the hand and fingers. Poorly fitting gloves cause hand cramps or blisters, which end up impairing the ability to work safely and efficiently.

Fortunately, the days of the infamous leather glove are in the past. Glove technology has advanced and help prevent cuts, abrasion hazards, punctures or burns. Now, gloves are made with special fabrics such as Kevlar, Dyneema or Tenactiv and

## PICKING THE RIGHT GLOVE

It’s important to choose a properly fitted glove and type for the task at hand. Don’t become a statistic—wearing that perfectly fit glove is the key to preventing a hand injury.

### ANSI Cut Levels

Grams to Cut || Cut Levels || Cut Hazards

200g - 400g	ANSI A1	LIGHT Applications in assembly, warehouse, construction, material handling
500g - 999g	ANSI A2	LIGHT - MEDIUM Applications in automotive assembly, packaging, metal handling, construction
1000g - 1499g	ANSI A3	LIGHT - MEDIUM Applications in automotive assembly, packaging, metal handling, construction
1500g - 2199g	ANSI A4	MEDIUM Applications in glass handling, HVAC, appliance manufacturing, automotive, machining, metal fabrication
2200g - 2999g	ANSI A5	MEDIUM - HIGH Applications in glass handling, HVAC, appliance manufacturing, automotive, machining, metal fabrication
3000g - 3999g	ANSI A6	HIGH Applications in metal stamping & fabrication, glass handling, HVAC, electrical, construction
4000g - 4999g	ANSI A7	HIGHER Applications in metal stamping & fabrication, glass handling, HVAC, electrical, construction, window manufacturing, recycling, aerospace
5000g - 5999g	ANSI A8	HIGHEST Applications in metal stamping & fabrication, glass handling, HVAC, electrical, construction, window manufacturing, recycling, aerospace
6000g +	ANSI A9	EXTREME Applications in metal stamping & fabrication, glass handling, HVAC, electrical, construction, window manufacturing, recycling, aerospace

have coatings like latex, nitrile, polyurethane and PVC. You can find the performance classification rating set forth by the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) stamped on the gloves. Certifications for cut levels are stamped on the gloves and are ranked from the least protection, A1, to the highest, A9. See the chart above for all cut levels.