

Hand Protection—Selecting the Right Glove

Handout

Make the Most of Your Hand Protection

Make sure you select the right glove for the hazard you face. Protective gloves fall into the following general categories:

- **Fabric or coated fabric gloves** protect hands from dirt and abrasions, and fabric gloves coated with plastic help prevent objects from slipping out of your hands.
- **Leather and canvas gloves** protect your hands from minor cuts, scrapes, splinters, and burns.
- **Metal mesh Kevlar® gloves** protect against cuts and punctures from sharp objects such as knives.
- **Aluminized and aramid fiber gloves** protect against extreme temperatures.
- **Chemical-resistant gloves** protect against chemical hazards.
- **Insulated rubber gloves** help protect against electrical shock.

Follow these simple rules when using gloves to provide maximum protection:

- Select the right type of glove for the hazard.
- Make sure the gloves fit your hands properly.
- Inspect gloves before each use for damage, and replace them if they have tears, holes, or other minor defects.
- Make sure gloves are the right length for the job.
- Do not use fabric or leather gloves on liquid chemicals because the material will soak up the chemical.
- Remove gloves contaminated with hazardous substances safely, and dispose of them as directed.
- Clean reusable gloves regularly.