



Personal Protective Equipment: Head

- Protective headgear must meet ANSI standard Z89.1.
- Before wearing head protection, inspect the hard hat shell, suspension system, and other accessories for holes, cracks, tears or other damage that might compromise the protective value of the hat.
- Replace a hard hat if it sustains an impact, **even if the damage is not noticeable**.
- Periodic cleaning and inspection will extend the life of protective headgear. Follow the manufacturer’s instruction for cleaning protective headgear.

<p>Class G Hard Hat (formerly known as Class A)</p> 	<p>Class G hard hats provide impact and penetration resistance along with limited voltage protection up to 2,200 volts.</p>
<p>Class E Hard Hat (formerly known as Class B)</p>	<p>Class E hard hats provide highest level of protection against electrical hazards, with high-voltage shock and burn protection up to 20,000 volts. Class B hard hats also provide protection from impact and penetration hazards by falling/flying objects.</p>
<p>Class C Hard Hat</p>	<p>Class C hard hats provide lightweight comfort and impact protection but don’t offer protection from electrical hazards.</p>
<p>Type I Hard Hat</p>	<p>Type I hats are intended to to reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow only to the top of the head and have a partial or full brim around the entire hat.</p>
<p>Type II Hard Hat</p>	<p>Type II hard hats are intended to reduce the force of lateral impact resulting from a blow which may be received off-center, from the side, or to the top of the head.</p>
<p>Bump Cap</p> 	<p>Bump caps are not ANSI-approved and are not designed to protect against falling or flying objects. They are designed for use in areas with low head clearance and are recommended for areas where protection is needed from head bumps and lacerations. This form of impact, for example, may result from contact with the sharp corner of a side beam, or a flying object.</p>
<p>Head Protection for Workshops or Field Work</p>	<p>Specialized eye & face protection is required for hazardous workshop or field work tasks including: potential impacts from tools, machinery and materials; high-voltage electrical work; immersion into potentially hazardous water; work in extreme temperatures; extensive work in the sun; and work in dark environments.</p> <p>Ask your supervisor for help selecting head protection for specialized work.</p>

Need Help?

- Ask the lab/shop supervisor
- Ask the department/college safety staff
- Ask SJSU Environmental Health & Safety ehs@sjsu.edu