

Hard hats, if worn properly and consistently, can protect crew members from falling or flying objects, electrical shock hazards and unintentional hard hits against fixed objects.

OSHA Standard 1926.100(a) *Employees working in areas where there is a possible danger of head injury from impact, or from falling or flying objects, or from electrical shock and burns, shall be protected by protective helmets.*

- Always be aware of any possible hazards to your head.
- Not every hard hat is the same! The type of protection provided can be very different depending on the type of hard hat.
- OSHA requires hard hats to meet special requirements and be marked with ANSI Z89.1.
- Workers exposed to electrical hazards must wear the appropriate head protection for the type of electrical hazard.
- Inspect your hard hat daily for signs of damage.
- Some hazards to the head may require workers to use hard hats designed for impacts to the sides as well as the top of the head.
- Workers need training to recognize the types of hazards requiring head protection, how to properly wear and maintain their head protection, and when to replace it.
- Make sure your hard hat fits properly! If your hard hat is too large or too small, even if it meets all the requirements, it will not protect you properly.
- Hardhat accessories must not compromise the safety elements of the protective helmet.
- Always replace a hard hat if it has sustained any kind of impact, even if damage is not noticeable. Replace hard hats if they have cracks or show signs of damage.



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