

SAFETY ALERT

Hand Injuries and Wearing PPE

Injuries in the last 3 months

In the last 3 months 7 lacerations have been reported, 6 of which were lacerations to the hand. Most of these lacerations were due to not wearing the protective gloves, or the gloves had deteriorated to the point that they no longer provided sufficient protection. Apprentice roofers are 3 times more likely to receive a laceration injury than that of apprentice plumbers or gas fitters.

Apprentices who install roof sheeting continuously face the potential for cuts, abrasions, lacerations and hand and wrist trauma. TAPS provides all of their apprentices with 3 different gloves, as shown opposite, and all apprentices MUST wear their gloves for the task at hand.

The gloves shown top right are a cut-resistant level 5 safety glove. They provide a superior level of protection from cuts and abrasions, along with resistance from heat to 100 ° C. These gloves are the preferred glove for TAPS apprentices to use, particularly for roofers.

The gloves shown middle right are a cut resistant level 1 glove used for standard hand protection.

The gloves shown bottom right are a synthetic riggers glove for use with hand and power tools in dry, wet or oily conditions. They have a cut-off thumb, index and middle finger design, which are perfect for handling small parts particularly for maintenance plumbers. They are not intended for handling metal roofing sheets or materials that are sharp.

If your gloves are worn and need to be replaced, do not hesitate to notify your Field Consultant in advance. Field Consultants carry spare PPE in their vehicles and they will replace PPE items as soon as they can on their programmed apprentice visits.

It is also important to reinforce that as an employee of TAPS, you have a legal obligation to wear all PPE that has been issued to you. Not wearing PPE such as gloves may lead to an official warning.

Apprentices must also concentrate on their work and not take short cuts to finish work in a hurried fashion. It is important to take the required time and to use the appropriate tools to complete work safely. Take the extra minute to source the right tools.



STOP-THINK-DO

Need More Information

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