

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

### 1. Definition

- Equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cannot be eliminated through other control measures.

### 2. Common Types

- **Head protection:** helmets/hard hats.
- **Eyeface protection:** safety goggles, face shields.
- **Hearing protection:** earplugs, earmuffs.
- **Respiratory protection:** masks, respirators.
- **Hand protection:** gloves.
- **Body protection:** coveralls, high-visibility clothing.

### 3. PPE as a Last Resort

- PPE is the lowest tier in the hierarchy of controls - it should supplement, not replace, elimination and engineering controls.

### 4. Employer Responsibilities

- Provide appropriate PPE free of charge, ensure proper fit, and train workers on correct use and maintenance.

### 5. Employee Responsibilities

- Wear PPE correctly and consistently, inspect it before use, and report damaged equipment.

### 6. Limitations

- PPE only protects the wearer, can create a false sense of security, and is ineffective if not used or fitted correctly.