



Why gamble?

You have a wealth of choices when it comes to protecting your eyes.

The accident: A worker who was not wearing protective eye wear was using a crowbar to take a nail out of some formwork when a piece of the nail head came off and lodged in the man's eye. He was taken to the hospital and treated.

The bottom line: A jobsite poses several eye and face injury possibilities, including:

- Dust, dirt, metal or wood chips entering the eye
- Chemical splashes from corrosive substances, hot liquids, solvents or other hazardous solutions
- Objects swinging into the eye or face
- Exposure to radiant energy or harmful rays.

Specific instances when eye protection is needed include cutting concrete, drilling overhead, working around concrete vibrators, and drilling or cutting pressure treated or preserved lumber, creosote timbers or piles.

When selecting suitable eye and face protection, take into consideration specific workplace hazards, proper fit and comfort, and proper vision and movement. There are several types of eye protection, including the following:

- Safety glasses – eyeglasses with safety frames constructed of metal or plastic and impact-resistant lenses.



- Goggles – Tight fitting eye protection that completely covers the eyes and facial area around the eyes.
- Welding shields – Shields that protect eyes from burns caused by infrared or intense radiant light; they also protect the eyes and face from flying sparks, metal splatter and slag chips produced during welding, brazing or soldering.
- Laser safety goggles – Specialty goggles that protect against intense concentrations of light produced by lasers.
- Face shields – Shields that protect against nuisance dusts and potential splashes or sprays of hazardous liquids. **EW**

Information for this Safety Watch came from an actual accident report, from Safety.Cat.com and from the Associated General

Contractors of America. It is meant for general information purposes only.