# Welding Safety Tips

## Be Prepared
- Always inspect equipment before use
- Inspect the area for potential combustible hazards
- Ensure you have the training for the process and metals to be welded
- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for information on the hazards of consumables and base materials being used
- Select and inspect the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE):
  - Welding helmet
  - Insulated gloves
  - Fire-resistant clothing without cuffs
  - Safety boots
  - Applicable respirator
- Place barriers/welding screen to protect others from intense light/UV hazard
- Ensure ABC type extinguisher is readily available

## Work Safe
- Remove old paint from any surfaces to be welded (lead-based paint needs special precautions)
- Work in an area designated for welding work where practical
- Where needed, use portable local exhaust ventilation, and position as close to welding as possible
- Open doors and windows where possible
- Welding in areas with little ventilation will require specific control measures
- Wear appropriate PPE
- Position your head out of the plume
- Work with material between waist and elbow height
- Avoid working in one position for too long
- Do not eat, drink or smoke in work area

## Finish Right
- Maintain a fire watch for a designated time
- Clean work area
- Store gas cylinders upright and secured
- Maintain and clean any equipment and PPE as recommended by manufacturer
- Wash hands and any exposed areas after use
- Follow procedure for cleaning any contaminated clothing
- Report any problems with equipment or PPE to your supervisor

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HOW TO USE SAFETY CHECKS FOR WORKERS

Safety checks provide information for workers on how to work safely with specific hazards. Safety Check information can be used in orientation training, tailgate talks or even in one-one coaching. Use the following tips to help you communicate this information in your workplace:

- Use language that is consistent with the workplace
- Consider the work you do and specific examples of how these hazards can result in injury or illness
- Explain how the safe work practices will help prevent injury and illness
- Wherever possible, use the actual tools, equipment, materials and PPE to demonstrate proper use
- Ask specific questions during your talk to check understanding
- Keep a record of each talk that you deliver (see the form below)
- Post a copy of the Safety Check for workers to reference

OWNERS AND SUPERVISORS

Have you taken reasonable measures to control this hazard using the hierarchy of controls?

- Purchasing equipment suitable for the work
- Ensuring all ventilation and barriers are in place and working
- Following manufacturer’s instructions
- Regularly inspecting and maintaining equipment
- Training on safe practices
- Implementing and enforcing a PPE program
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