



PPE and safety equipment

Everyone working with chemicals must make sure they wear the right safety gear – also called personal protection equipment or PPE. Workers are entitled to have PPE provided by the employer or PCBU. It is the employer or PCBU's responsibility to make sure that the PPE is suitable for the work or hazard, that it is clean and maintained and that it fits the workers who use it.

What is the right safety gear

The exact gear needed will depend on the product you are using and the job you are doing. You may need specific gear depending on whether you are:

- mixing
- handling
- applying
- cleaning application equipment
- cleaning up spills.

The product label and SDS (safety data sheet) will tell you about the hazards of the product and the precautions you should take.

Generally you should have available:



Chemical resistant gloves



Chemical resistant goggles or full face mask



Overalls



Respirator with correct filter or cartridge



Chemical resistant foot wear

Not all gloves are the same

There are different types of gloves for different chemicals. Most safety clothing manufacturers will have a chemical resistance chart which tells you which gloves are suitable for which chemicals. Make sure that the gloves that you have are fit for purpose for the chemicals you are handling.

Check your:

- skin is fully covered when handling chemicals
- safety gear is right for the chemicals you use
- respirator and filter or cartridges are the right type
- safety gear fits properly. If it does not fit, it will not protect you
- safety gear is cleaned at the end of the day and stored securely.

Always wash your hands, arms and face after working with agrichemicals, especially before:

- eating
- drinking
- smoking
- going to the toilet.

Once you have finished using agrichemicals for the day, have a shower or bath with soap and water, shampoo your hair, and put on clean clothes.

Wash your clothes separately from other clothes before using them again.



For more detailed information on safety gear

The regulations

[Regulation 15, Health and Safety at Work \(General Risk and Workplace Management\) Regulations 2016](#)

[Regulation 17, Health and Safety at Work \(General Risk and Workplace Management\) Regulations 2016](#)

The guidance

[Personal protective equipment](#)