



# Toolbox Talk

## Topic: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Storage

PPE storage is important for helping ensure that it functions as it is intended and can help increase the usable lifetime of the protective equipment. Everything from protective eyewear to Tyvek suits should be stored in a manner that prevents damage.

### Tips for proper storage of PPE are as follows:

- Safety glasses should be stored in a case or a manner that prevents them from being scratched.
- Fall protection harnesses should be hung to prevent crushing, bending or contact with sharp objects. They should also be stored away from direct sunlight or heat sources.
- Respirator equipment should be stored in airtight containers such as a sealable plastic bag to help prevent dust accumulation. Additionally, they should be stored away from direct sunlight or sources of heat.
- Protective footwear should be conditioned to maintain water resistance and replaced when damaged to ensure proper functioning.
- Gloves should be stored in a manner to prevent cuts or damage.
- Hard hats should be stored out of direct sunlight and in a manner to prevent warping or damage.

All PPE should be inspected before each use. Any damaged or improperly functioning PPE should be replaced before resuming work.

*Prompt questions for employees about how they store their PPE.*

