

Glove Care - Why does it matter?

Improper glove care can shorten the life of your PPE. It can also lead to dermatitis, decreased dexterity, loss of protective abilities, and odour. Glove care refers not only to laundering, but also proper storage, routine glove checks, and knowledge of materials and their particular strengths and weaknesses.

Because there are so many different work gloves on the market, experienced safety managers should be aware of what workers' gloves are made of and how they will stand up to the applications they're being used for. Common glove materials include nylon, spandex, leather, cotton, SuperFabric®, Kevlar®, and knit fibres. Each of these materials have a certain ways they need to be cared for, and often times there is a blending of the materials, making proper care even more crucial.

Proper storage: Gloves should be ideally stored in clean, dry conditions, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

Routine glove checks: Glove life varies based on application, environment and amount of use. Because of this, it is vital that you perform routine glove checks, ideally before going to work every day. Take note of areas that may have begun to wear down, such as loose Velcro®, a worn-down name tag, lingering moisture, or a strong odour. Keeping an eye out for these issues and others keeps you one step further from a worksite hand injury, which is the ultimate goal of hand protection in the first place.

- Gloves marked “wash with care” are machine washable. The number inside the symbol denotes what temperature to wash the gloves at (e.g., machine wash with care at 30 degrees Celsius). Washing with care can be done by changing the machine cycle, using a different pre-set wash program (gentle/delicate), and being sure not to overload the washing machine.

- If there are no care instructions on the glove, wash in a cold (30 degrees Celsius), wash with a mild detergent, on a gentle cycle. Best results are achieved with line or air drying. If tumble drying is used, again set on a low temperature and remove immediately on completion of drying time.

- When washing by hand, it is important to use a soap and/or detergent that won't irritate your skin. Also, be sure to wash gloves over a sink or outside, and rinse thoroughly.

Companies who properly launder their gloves can increase lifespan by up to 300%. Laundering removes harmful chemicals, perspiration, and everyday grit and grime that can weaken protective fibres and seams. Our team of solutions specialists are here to help you with this process, and they are more than happy to provide you with all the information you need.



Wash with care



Hand wash only



Do not bleach



Tumble dry low



Hang dry (indoors)



Line dry

NOTE: High bowl temperature and harsh tumbling can damage cut resistant fibres such as HPPE, reducing the cut resistance of the gloves. Be aware that the glove's performance can be reduced without damage being visible.