



Petrotek

HARD HATS

So what is the big deal about wearing a hard hat anyway? Why all the fuss, they just fall off anyhow and cause me to sweat more. Why should I wear one?

Well, let's think about it for a minute. Wait, think about it. This is reason enough to wear your hard hat. You should always be **thinking** while you are on the job. If your brain gets damaged, thinking clearly is in serious jeopardy.

The hard hat is a symbol of a professional worker, just like a suit & tie. It is your right to wear it, you earned that right through your hard work, sweat and tired muscles. So be proud of your hard hat and use it with the knowledge that it will protect you from head injury if worn correctly.



The ability of a hard hat to protect you depends on the shock absorbing space between the shell and the top of your head by the suspension system. *Never put anything between the top of your head and the shell of the hardhat.* The sweat band and suspension strap must be by properly adjusted to obtain the maximum protection. Sunlight and heat can rot the sweatband and straps, so be careful and do not leave it in the sunlight when you are not using it. You should inspect your hard hat every day for cracks, gouges, signs of fatigue and frays or breaks in the straps. Take good care of your hard hat and it may prevent a serious head injury.

Hard hats are required whenever there are head injury hazards in the work area. These hazards can come from falling objects, overhead structures or even when another worker is carrying long items.



Can you wear your hardhat backwards? This depends on the manufacturer and the type of suspension system you have. Be sure and read the manufacturer's instruction and warnings for safe use that came with your hardhat **before** you use it.

How long is my hardhat good for? Manufacturers have recommended replacement dates for their hardhats. Each hardhat comes with a date stamp in it, a born on date if you will. Be sure and understand your specific manufacturer's requirements for replacement. Typically it is in the 3-5 year range with the suspension system being replaced each year of heavy use.

Name & Signature of Employees at Tailgate Meeting

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Referenced Standards: ANSI Z89.1 & Z89.2 and OSHA 29 CFR 1910.135

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