



Prevent Chemical Eye Injuries

PRESERVE THE SIGHT TO FIGHT!

Tri-Service Vision Conservation
and Readiness Program

Prevent Chemical Eye Injuries

- Always wear safety glasses with side shields when working with hazardous chemicals to protect against splashes.
- Use ANSI/ISEA* Z87 compliant splash resistant goggles. These goggles have vents that prevent liquid from getting through.
- For extra protection, wear face shield over safety glasses or goggles.
- Understand proper handling and first aid procedures before using chemicals.
- If an eyewash station is available, know where it is and how to use it.

Chemical Splash First Aid

- Rinse the eye immediately with lots of cold water.
 - » Most household chemicals cause only temporary discomfort, but some chemicals can cause severe and irreparable damage in just a few seconds. Time is critical.
 - » At home, step into shower with clothes on and rinse the eye.
 - » Even though uncomfortable, open eyelids wide and rinse underneath.
 - » Remove contact lenses.
- Rinse the eye continuously for at least 20 minutes.
 - » Eye contact with alkalis such as lime, lye, many hydroxides, or acids such as hydrochloric acid, battery fluid, and drain cleaners can cause severe damage.
 - » Assume the worst case and rinse the eye immediately.
- Contact emergency medical services or an eye care professional for instructions and advice.

*American National Standards Institute/International Safety Equipment Association