



Food Manufacture

# Health and Safety, COSHH and Fire Awareness

## Lesson 4

This course is suitable for everyone working in food manufacture or wanting to work in the industry, it explains the important subjects of health and safety, COSHH and fire awareness

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**All staff working  
in the factory will  
have to wear  
some form of  
Personal  
Protective  
Equipment (PPE)**



There are two main functions of PPE:

1. To protect the safety of the staff
2. To protect the safety of the food





PPE is sourced by the factory purchasing department. Staff are not allowed to use their own PPE from home as it may not have undertaken specific hygiene and safety checks.





## **The most common PPE used in a factory are:**

- Overalls
- Gloves
- Hardhats
- Protective foot wear
- Eye goggles and visor
- Apron and sleeves
- Reflective clothing
- Thermal clothing
- Hairnets and beard snoods
- Ear protectors



Overalls are worn to make sure staff's outside clothing does not come into contact with the food e.g. a button falling into the product. An overall can also protect any clothing from getting hooked onto machinery. Overalls are usually white in colour so they show dirt easily and are more likely to be changed more often. They usually have press studs which fasten on the inside to prevent any foreign body contamination.





Gloves can protect staff's hands and also the product from the staff's skin.





Hardhats are worn in areas where it is easy to bang the head e.g. factories with low mezzanine floors.







Protective footwear can be wellington boots and safety boots. They have anti-slip soles and steel toe caps to protect the toes. Wellington boots are also waterproof.





Eye goggles and visors protect the eyes and face from splashes of dangerous substances such as hot sauces or chemicals.





Aprons and sleeves are worn in messy jobs as they can be easily disposed of. They can also be used in different colours when handling different types of product e.g. allergens. Sleeves can prevent product from going up an overall sleeve and can help to prevent an overall sleeve from catching on machinery and equipment.





Reflective clothing is worn so the operative can be easily seen this is usually in the despatch and warehouse department's where vehicles are operated.





Thermal clothing  
e.g. coats and gloves  
are worn in cold  
environments such  
as in a freezer.





Hairnets and beard snoods are worn to prevent hair from contaminating the product but also to keep hair safely tucked away and preventing it getting tangled and trapped in machinery or equipment.





Ear protectors are worn to protect the operatives hearing in loud places of work.





**The operatives are responsible for checking their PPE is clean and in a good condition. Any unsuitable or broken PPE must be reported to management immediately.**





Overalls are cleaned by the factory or an outside company but not taken home by staff to clean. They are cleaned to a specific standard and the sterile clean overalls are placed into clean bags to be used so they aren't at risk of contamination.





After using PPE it should be disposed of in the correct way:

- Placed in the correct bin
- Placed in the laundry bin
- Placed in the cleaning area
- Placed on the correct racking or hooks





# Revision Activity 4

**Name three piece of personal protective equipment worn in a factory?**