

Welding Best Practices – Burn Prevention

From Safety + Health Magazine, with American Welding Society recommendations: [Protect welders from burns](#)

- Wear approved welding helmets that protect the face, neck and ears, and wear a head covering.
- Wear safety goggles or safety glasses – even under a helmet.
- Ensure work gloves and aprons don't have holes.
- Wear flame-resistant earplugs/earmuffs to stop sparks getting in the ears.
- Wear oil-free, flame-resistant, non-melting protective gloves, shirts, pants and caps. Also, wear leather leggings and flame-resistant boots when necessary.
- Remove any combustible items, such as lighters or matches, before welding.
- Don't wear clothing with cuffs or open pockets – these spaces can trap molten metal or sparks.
- Use sheet metal screens for additional protection when heavy welding or cutting takes place.

From CDC / NIOSH Best Practices: [Welding, Cutting and Brazing General Requirements](#)

- Keep welding cables and hoses clear of passageways, ladders, and stairways.
- Provide welders, cutters, brazers, and helpers suitable eye protection with proper filter lens shade numbers
- Are surfaces used for welding, cutting, or heating, covered by a preservative or coating?
 - Competent Person evaluation needed to assess.
 - Are highly flammable or toxic (Lead, Cadmium,) coatings stripped from the area to be heated at least 4 inches away from heat application?
 - Have preservative coatings been stripped from the object so that the temperature of the unstripped metal will not be appreciably raised?
 - Have all operations that involve the welding, cutting, or heating of metals containing lead, cadmium, mercury, or beryllium, been evaluated to determine if respiratory protection is required?

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