

# WELDING SAFETY STARTER GUIDE

Toxic fumes, extreme heat and flying sparks aren't occasional risks for welders – they're constant. MSC offers protection built for these everyday hazards. This guide outlines key safety considerations and our Industrial Safety Consultants can help assess your specific needs and support OSHA compliance. Every hazard, every weld – MSC has you covered.



## PPE ESSENTIALS

### HEAD & EYE:

- Welding Helmet  
*(correct shade, clean lens, in good condition)*
- Safety Glasses or Goggles worn under the welding helmet

### CLOTHING & GLOVES:

- Flame Resistant Clothing
- Welding gloves suited to the task
- Safety footwear  
*(Hot work specific recommended)*

### RESPIRATORY & HEARING:

- Respirator or mask  
*(with correct filter based on exposure)*
- Hearing protection  
*(earplugs or earmuffs)*

### VENTILATION:

- Local exhaust or portable fume extraction active

## TRAINING & COMPETENCY:

- Welders trained/certified for the process
- PPE use, care and inspection training completed
- Hot work permit process understood  
*(where required)*
- Emergency procedures reviewed and posted
- Awareness of hazards  
*(fumes, confined spaces, chemicals, fire, explosion)*

## WORK AREA SETUP:

- Barriers or welding curtains in place
- "Welding in Progress" signage visible
- Fire hazards removed; fire extinguisher available
- Ventilation and airflow confirmed
- Gas cylinders stored upright, secured and capped when not in use
- Regulators, hoses and connections inspected and free from leaks/damage

## CONSULTATION & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT:

- PPE and ventilation reviewed with safety specialist
- Respiratory protection needs evaluated
- Regular PPE audits and equipment checks completed
- Emergency procedures specific to welding
- Feedback from welders collected and acted on