



HOLT

Business Solutions Ltd

Hand protection

Buying guide



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Choosing the right hand protection

The most effective and reliable way to prevent skin problems is to design and operate processes to avoid contact with harmful substances. When you select protective gloves, base your choice on the work, the wearer and the environment they work in. You need to consider the following five factors:

- Identify the substances handled.
- Identify all other hazards.
- Consider the type and duration of contact.
- Consider the user - size and comfort.
- Consider the task.

Identify the substances handled

Alexandra offers a variety of gloves that differ in design, material and thickness. No glove material will protect against all substances nor will it protect against a specific substance forever.


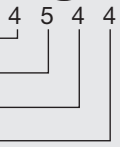
To protect hands from substances/chemicals choose a glove that meets the European Standard **EN374-3**, but make sure the glove material you choose protects against the substances being handled. Please refer to the European standards chart below for further information relating to certain types of protection.

- **Substances in products:** Some products contain substances that can harm the skin or enter the body through skin contact. The product label or material safety data sheet will tell you if this is applicable.
- **Substances created by work processes and 'natural' substances:** Not all harmful substances come in labelled containers. Substances can be generated during work activities (e.g. wood dust from sanding or solder fumes). Remember that handling some 'natural' substances like foods and flowers can cause skin problems too.

Prolonged or frequent contact with water, particularly in combination with soaps and detergents, can cause dermatitis. 'Wet work' is the term used to describe tasks in the workplace that can cause this. To protect the hands from 'wet work' choose a glove that meets the European Standard **EN374-2**, this shows that the gloves are waterproof.

European standards

Developed to enable assessment of intermediate and complex gloves. All conform to **EN420**, other standards relate to certain types of hazards.

| EN388 Mechanical Hazards | |  |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Abrasion resistance | 4 |  |
| Blade cut resistance | 5 | |
| Tear resistance | 4 | |
| Puncture resistance | 4 | |

- **EN374-2:** Determination of resistance to water penetration
- **EN374-3:** Determination of resistance to permeation by chemicals
- **EN407:** Protective gloves against thermal risks
- **EN420:** General requirements for gloves
- **EN455:** Medical gloves
- **EN511:** Protective gloves against cold
- **EN1186:** Food contact