

AGC Tool Box Safety Talk

PREVENTING CONCRETE BURNS AND CONTACT DERMATITIS

INTRODUCTION

1. Review any accidents or “near accidents” from the past week.
2. Describe the hazards of the work as they relate to your project. Explain or show the SAFE way of doing the job.
3. Give the TOOL BOX SAFETY TALK

Cement and concrete are so common on a construction site that workers often don't think much about them. They're just part of the job. But skin contact with cement dust or wet cement can cause burns, rashes, and other kinds of skin irritation. Cement dust and wet cement can also irritate your eyes. When working with concrete, take these precautions:

- Wear goggles or safety glasses with side shields to protect yourself from splashes.
- Wear boots and other protective clothing if necessary. Make sure boots are high enough to prevent concrete from flowing into them.
- Wear gloves that are impermeable — the cement can't get through them. Leather or cloth work gloves won't protect you.
- Use waterproof pads between fresh concrete surfaces and knees, elbows, and hands when finishing concrete.
- If you get wet or dry cement on your skin or in your eyes, wash or rinse it off immediately with lots of water.
- Rinse clothing saturated with fresh concrete with clean water.
- Use protective barrier creams when practical.

