

Working safely with steel

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State-based work safety authorities provide a range of safe-working regulations and requirements for construction workers including general site induction qualifications, work method statements, working at height, safe ergonomic handling practices and other OH&S regulations. This instruction sheet focuses on the specific safety aspects related to fabricating or cutting steel frames at residential construction sites.



1 Working safely and avoiding injury is working smart. Following safe working practices ensures you work efficiently – avoiding injuries that may disrupt your work, cause you pain or disability, loss of income, or prove fatal.



2 Always have the correct protective equipment or clothing for the job. High visibility long-sleeve UV shirts protect you from the sun as well as provide protection from sharp materials. Plus, you will be highly visible to others working or driving machinery nearby.



3 If working outside, use sunscreen made to Australian standards, wear a wide-brimmed UV-resistant hat and safety glasses made to Australian standards. Safety glasses are available with clear or tinted lenses for sunny environments.



4 Protect your feet with sturdy steel capped footwear – this will help avoid injury from dropped items or materials.



5 Lightweight Kevlar-cut resistant gloves provide you with the flexibility needed to do your job properly while protecting your hands from cuts on sharp materials.



6 Safety glasses are recommended. Even simple operations can result in eye injury.



7 When cutting or grinding with a carborundum, protect your eyes from deflected spark particles with the additional use of a full-face shield made to Australian standards.

Work safely with steel

BlueScope Steel recommends safety precautions are taken when working with steel – protect yourself with long sleeves, steel-capped boots, gloves and safety glasses and ensure you have the right tool for the job.