




# COVID-19 PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR GUIDANCE

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1. Always perform a risk assessment prior to your client interaction to determine personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements.
2. **Protective eyewear and a medical mask** are required any time a physical distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained with a client unable to wear a face covering.
3. Protective eyewear must be put on **before** interaction with clients.

Options	Considerations in Selection
<b>Goggles</b> 	<b>Goggles</b> , with a snug fit around the eyes that covers the front and sides of the face, provide the <b>most reliable eye protection</b> from splashes, sprays, and respiratory droplets. Goggles can be re-used by the <b>SAME</b> user. Wearing goggles for prolonged periods can be uncomfortable for some individuals.
<b>Face Shield</b> 	<b>Face shields</b> cover the maximum area of the face to reduce exposure from splashes, sprays or droplets to both the eyes and face. Care must be taken to keep the face shield low enough to adequately cover the mouth and chin. A single-use face shield can be re-used by the <b>SAME</b> user until it becomes cracked or visibility is compromised.
<b>Safety Glasses</b> 	<b>Safety glasses</b> that provide a barrier to splashes are acceptable eye protection but do not provide the same level of protection as goggles or face shields. They are not recommended for prolonged close contact, especially if the client or co-workers are unmasked. Safety glasses can be re-used by the <b>SAME</b> user.
❖ <b>If you wear prescription glasses</b> , use a face shield or goggles that fit snugly over the eyeglasses. Conversion kits (e.g., clip-on attachments) do not make the eyewear acceptable as PPE within a workplace.	
<b>Additional guidance for the use of protective eyewear</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure eye protection and medical mask compatibility so that there is no interference with the proper positioning of the eye protection or with the fit of the mask.</li> <li>• Use of eye protection can be extended beyond one client. All eye protection <b>must be cleaned and disinfected between uses</b> – see below. Examples of when to clean eye protection include prior to changing medical masks, when going to breaks or meals, and at the end of a shift.</li> <li>• Eye protection should be replaced when soiled or damaged.</li> </ul> <b>Cleaning protective eyewear</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfecting eye protection, if available.</li> <li>2. Use <a href="#">Health Canada approved disinfectant</a> wipes.</li> <li>3. Perform <a href="#">hand hygiene</a> prior to removing eye protection.</li> <li>4. When removing eye protection, reach up behind head or side of head; do not touch the front of contaminated eye protection.</li> <li>5. Using the disinfectant wipe in one hand, carefully wipe the inside surface of eye protection. Discard wipe.</li> <li>6. Still holding eye protection in the same hand, use the other hand and take a second disinfectant wipe, and wipe the outside surface of the eye protection. Discard wipe.</li> <li>7. Place clean eye protection on clean surface.</li> <li>8. Perform hand hygiene.</li> <li>9. If visibility is compromised by residual disinfectant, eye protection can be rinsed with tap water.</li> <li>10. Allow eye protection to dry prior to next use.</li> <li>11. Store in a designated clean area in a manner to prevent contamination (e.g. labelled paper or plastic bag).</li> </ol>	

Adapted with permission from Ottawa Public Health.