



Regulatory Compliance

## Construction Hard Hat Sticker Info You Need to Know

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Let's face it – there are many dangers in your work environment. For this reason alone, employers are responsible for keeping their employees safe from dangerous situations. To protect construction workers from severe impacts, falling or flying objects, or electrical shock, **OSHA** requires employers to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to their employees, such as hard hats.

The type of hard hat that you wear depends on your industry and the risks associated with your line of work and job environment. OSHA requires hard hats when a job site involves the risk of head injury from flying debris or falling objects, impacts against equipment or surfaces, or electrical shock.

OSHA classifies hard hats into two types and three categories, based on the level and type of protection the hat provides. A construction hard hat, for instance, may be any one of the three, depending on the job you do on site:

- **Type I:** Protects only the top of the head.
- **Type II:** Protects the top and the sides of the head.
- **Class C:** Conductive hard hats don't provide protection against electrical hazards.
- **Class G:** General hard hats are rated for protection from electrical current up to 2,200 volts.
- **Class E:** Electrical hard hats provide protection up to 20,000 volts.

While you can't purchase OSHA hard hat stickers, other hard hat stickers are permitted to further encourage safe workplace practices. For example, construction worker hard hat stickers might identify the purpose of the hard hat or display safety slogans.

### How To Comply With OSHA Hard Hat Sticker Regulations

Maintaining the integrity of your hard hat is crucial for your on-site safety. Hard hats do have expiration dates, and intense sun and extreme temperature exposure and hard daily use decrease the lifespan of your equipment. If you drop your hat more than eight to 10 feet or experience a heavy impact, you'll need to replace it right away. Check your hard hat every day for reduced surface gloss, flaking, cracks, dents or holes.

When hard hat stickers are applied, it's essential to make sure they're not covering up any cracks or damage to the helmet's shell. If the integrity of the hard hat is compromised, workers need to see it

right away to replace the hard cap.

With the construction industry in full swing, now is the ideal time to understand how to safely apply hard hat stickers and the importance of having them.

## How do construction hard hat stickers add value?

With construction hard hat stickers, you can reward your workers for safety accomplishments – such as *CPR*, *confined space*, and *rescue team training*. By providing construction workers with construction hard hat stickers, you can also recognize your employees and acknowledge their safety training.

Additionally, construction hard hat stickers are ideal for:

- Adding visibility to emergency response teams with *retroreflective stickers*
- Showing patriotism with *American Flag* hard hat stickers
- Motivating *safety with slogans* and bold messages printed on hard hat stickers
- Keeping *emergency information* accessible to first responders

## What does OSHA say about applying hard hat stickers?

Per *OSHA*, placing adhesive stickers is acceptable if the manufacturer authorizes the alteration or the employer can demonstrate the reliability of the helmet is not affected by the paint or the adhesive on the stickers, and if the color or placement of stickers would not reduce the ability to identify defects (i.e., use of see-through stickers) or other conditions that would indicate reduced reliability.

Pressure-sensitive adhesive, non-metallic labels, or tape with self-adhesive backing are standard on most of today's hard hats. However, there are standard guidelines to follow: Do not use stickers to cover up hard hat damage, and place stickers at least three-quarters of an inch from the helmet's edge.

## Where is the best place to apply my construction hard hat sticker – front or side?

The commonplace award stickers are on the side of the hard hat. Company logos are often placed on the front of the hard hat.

Keep your construction workers safe and encourage them to have more safe days with *Construction Hard Hat Stickers*.

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