

SAFETY

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Face Shield

Having at least minimal protection in place to reduce the chances that these projectiles will reach and damage the eyes should be a common sense no-brainer for ANYONE who intends to stand at the lathe,



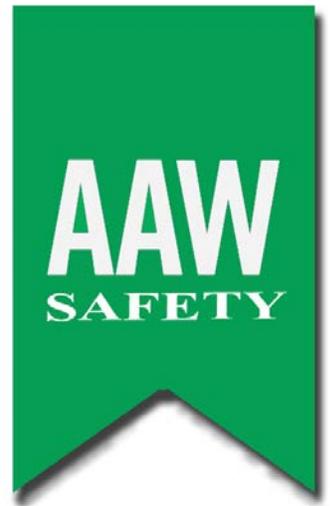
It is advisable to select a face shield that is not simply a piece of plastic hanging from a headband, but one which includes lower face and jaw protection as well.

Respiratory Protection

Another safety issue involving the use of personal protection equipment involves ensuring that the operator is adequately protected from fine wood dust carried in inhaled air. Since inhaled fine particulates can represent a significant health risk, particularly in repeated exposures over extended periods of time, it is particularly important that this aspect of woodturning safety be treated very seriously.

Installation of an efficient dust collection capability in the classroom workstation is recommended. Respiratory PPE involves specific devices that are used to eliminate or reduce the possibility of inhaling fine air-suspended particles deep into the lungs.

Face masks are recommended for protection from wood dust generated during sanding, this is the greatest respiratory health risk.



Hearing Protection

In general, woodturning at the lathe is a fairly quiet endeavor, especially when compared to running other woodshop machinery such as surface planers, jointers, miter saws, and table saws.

There are numerous kinds of hearing protection (Hearing Protection Devices, HPD) available in different designs. Some prefer an earmuff style hearing protector, with a spring-tension band that can be worn over the top of the head, behind the head, or even under the chin. Others prefer hearing protection that inserts into the outer ear canal as an ear plug which attenuates high noise levels before they reach the ear drum and inner ear anatomy.



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