

# PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM COLD ENVIRONMENTS

- EQUIP YOURSELF WITH THE PROPER PPE FROM BDG®

\*SPONSORED ADVERTISEMENT

W hether working outdoors in frigid weather, indoors in a refrigerated setting, or handling cold tools or materials, Bob Dale Gloves (BDG<sup>®</sup>) offers a number of PPE solutions to help you get the job done safely. BDG<sup>®</sup> cold-resistant and lined gloves are designed to protect workers' hands from freezing temperatures and the risk of frostbite.

Working in the cold in either an outdoor or indoor environment can pose a number of challenges and dangers.

**MAINTAINING TACTILE GRIP**—Cold, numb hands make it difficult to hold on to things and can lead to you dropping tools or materials on your feet or onto others, as well as damaging goods.

**DECREASED MOBILITY AND FLEXIBILITY**—When undertaking any task in a cold environment, you need to take into account the extra layers of clothing you have on and the thicker, insulated gloves you're wearing. Adjust your movements accordingly to avoid potential injuries.

**BEWARE OF ICE**—And not just in slip and fall situations. Ice can form on the machinery you're working on, the tools you're using, and the materials you're handling, causing problems with grip. Ice can also form in rigid shapes, such as icicles and sheet ice, which pose cut and puncture hazards.

**STAYING WARM AND DRY**—No two work environments are the same. Some are colder, some are wetter, some are both. It's critical to keep your hands warm and dry to safely do the job, even if it means frequently changing gloves to save your hands. Choosing gloves that balance insulation and moisture wicking is also key to being comfortable.

**EXPOSURE TO THE ELEMENTS**—Long exposure to the cold conditions can dry out skin, cause permanent cold sensitivity in affected areas, ongoing muscle and joint pain, and the risk of frostbite and hypothermia.

## FROSTBITE

Frostbite is an injury caused by the freezing of the skin and underlying tissues—typically affecting the extremities, particularly the feet and hands. The lower the temperature, the more quickly frostbite will occur. With frostbite, the skin is actually frozen and causes permanent damage. Medical attention is required.

Like burns, there are varying degrees of frostbite. Even mild cases of frostbite may lead to long-term symptoms like sensitivity to cold, numbness, or pain. Severe cases such as forth degree frostbite can result in tissue necrosis, nerve damage, and can lead to amputation.

You can seriously damage your hands and fingers within five minutes in sub-zero temperatures. The risk of frostbite is increased in people with reduced blood circulation and those not properly dressed for the cold. Working in cold environments and handling cold tools and materials will accelerate the onset of frostbite. Wearing proper waterproof, cold-resistant work gloves or gloves with thermal liners helps keep your hands warmer while you work.

#### SIGNS OF FROSTBITE

- · Numbness, loss of feeling
- · Cold, hard, waxy-looking skin
- Tingling or stinging
- Aching
- Blisters may occur in severe cases
- Patches of skin turn red, white, blue, gray, purple or brown, depending on how serious the frostbite is and one's usual skin color

#### FROSTBITE FIRST AID

- Call 911 immediately in an emergency, otherwise seek medical assistance ASAP.
- Move worker to a warm room or vehicle.
- Remove any wet clothing and loosely cover and protect the area.
- Do not rub or massage the affected area to warm it.
- Do not apply snow/water. Do not break blisters. Do not try to re-warm the frostbitten area using heating pads or placing in warm water.
- If they are alert, give the person warm, sweetened drinks to help increase their body temperature.

# **CHOOSING COLD ENVIRONMENT WORK GLOVES**

## Here are a few things to consider when selecting cold-resistant gloves for the task at hand.

**THE RIGHT PROTECTION FOR THE JOB**—In addition to offering cold and water resistance, your work gloves need to provide all the other protections needed for the task at hand—such as cut resistance, impact resistance, puncture resistance, and more.

**INSULATION INFORMATION**—Depending on your work environment, you'll want a glove with more or less insulation. Someone working in a cold room would prefer a less insulated glove with added flexibility, compared to a worker in sub-zero temperatures.

**GET A GRIP**—Just like regular work gloves, you can get cold-resistant work gloves with various grips. Palm coating is a popular method of adding grip to gloves. For winter gloves, you'll often find nitrile-coated gloves work best due to their excellent grip in wet conditions.

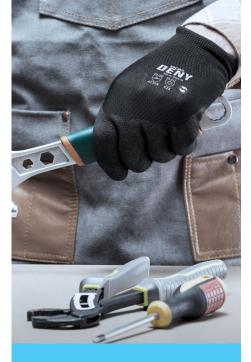
**DRESS FOR THE ACTIVITY**—You want to be comfortable all day. If you're doing more strenuous work, take into account that you may be sweating and overheating.

**SIZE MATTERS**—You want your glove to fit like...well...a glove. Too small of a glove can cut off circulation and restrict movement. Too large a glove can be dangerous as excess material can be caught in machinery.



## TIPS FOR WORKING IN THE COLD

- · Awareness is key for anyone working in cold temperatures.
- · Wind chill can cause heat to leave the body and extremities more quickly.
- Wetness or dampness, even from body sweat, causes heat loss from the body.
- Know the warning signs, consult the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Cold Stress Guide.
- OSHA recommends wearing a minimum of three layers of clothing to retain your internal body temperature.
- Drinking warm beverages like tea, coffee, hot chocolate can help maintain your internal body temperature.
- Follow the regulations about working conditions that protect those working in cold environments.
- Cold-related injuries are generally preventable with awareness, training, and common sense.



## EN 511:2006

EN 511:2006 is the standard that gloves must meet to offer protection against convective cold, contact cold, and permeability of water as low as -58°F/-50°C.

The standard specifies the requirements and test methods for A) Resistance to Convective Cold (0-4), B) Resistance to Contact Cold (0-4), and C) Permeability by Water (0-1). The emblem is accompanied by a threedigit number that relates to the glove's performance ratings in the three required tests. All gloves displaying the EN511 emblem must achieve at least performance level 1 for abrasion and tear resistance under EN 388.

All BDG<sup>®</sup> products are tested to industry standards—including ANSI, EN, CE, and ISO—and claims verified by third party laboratories to ensure your safety and earn your trust.

EN 511

PROTECTION AGAINST CONVECTIVE COLD

PROTECTION AGAINST CONTACT COLD

PROTECTION AGAINST WATER PENETRATION

# **COLD ENVIRONMENT SAFETY SOLUTIONS**



99-9-301 LINED FULL NITRILE COATED 15 **GA. NYLON (CUT/LIQUID) GLOVES** 

The 99-9-301 gloves feature a 15 ga. nylon shell, foam latex palm coating over full coating, thermal nylon/acrylic lining, and an elastic knit wrist with hemmed cuff.

### 99-9-300 LINED FULL NITRILE COATED 15 GA. **NYLON (CUT/LIQUID) GLOVES**

The 99-9-300 gloves feature a 15 ga. nylon shell, foam nitrile knuckle coating over full coating, thermal nylon/acrylic lining, and an elastic knit wrist with hemmed cuff.



## 99-9-265 LINED ¾ NITRILE COATED 15 GA. **ACRYLIC/NYLON GLOVES**

The 99-9-265 gloves feature a 15 ga. nylon/acrylic shell, foam nitrile knuckle coating with a smooth finish, 10 ga, brushed lining, and an elastic knit wrist with hemmed cuff.

## **40-9-1800 LINED GRAIN GOATSKIN FITTER** W/SAFETY CUFF (HI-VIZ)

The 40-9-1800 gloves feature a grain goatskin palm and Hi-Viz polyester backhand with grain leather knuckle strap and reflective strip, gunn cut with wing thumb, C100 Thinsulate<sup>™</sup> insulation, a safety cuff and inside elastic wrist.

## **50-9-5011 LINED GRAIN GOATSKIN 1-FINGER** MITT W/5" CUFF (CUT/IMPACT)

The **50-9-5011** mitts feature a grain goatskin palm and backhand with a cut-resistant lining and C150 Thinsulate<sup>™</sup> insulation. The mitts are stitched with Kevlar<sup>®</sup> and offer TPR backhand impact protection, a 5" split cowhide gauntlet cuff, shirred elastic wrist and keystone thumb.

These are just a few examples of our PPE offerings. Please note that the examples shown here are not cut and puncture proof, do not use with moving blades, tools or serrated blades. You can you can check out all our cold-resistant gloves at bobdalegloves.com/safety-feature-solutions/ safety-hazard-solutions/cold-resistance.



\*Sponsored Advertisement

Information contained in this document is subject to change without notice. As Bob Dale Gloves and Imports Ltd. cannot control or anticipate the conditions under which this product may be used, each user should review the information in specific context of the planned use. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Bob Dale Gloves and Imports Ltd., and/or its affiliates, employees or representatives will not be responsible for damages of any nature resulting from the use or reliance upon the information contained in this data sheet. No express or implied warranties are given other than those implied mandatory by law. COPYRIGHT © 2024 - Bob Dale Gloves & Imports Ltd.

Revision Date: September 4th, 2024