

ARC and MIG Welding Safety

1. Be sure the welder is properly installed and grounded.
2. Never weld without adequate ventilation.
3. Take proper precautions to prevent fires.
4. Wear eye protection at all times.
5. Weld only in a fire safe area.
6. Never do any welding, cutting, or hot work on used drums, barrels, tanks, or other containers.
7. Mark metal "HOT" with a soapstone.
8. Under no circumstances should you weld on yours or anybody else's vehicle.
9. Watches, rings, and other jewelry should be removed prior to welding.
10. Never look directly at the ultraviolet light emitted by the welder. This could cause flash burns or even blindness.
11. Never change the setting on a welder while welding.
12. **Protect yourself.** Wear welding gloves, helmet, leather apron, welding chaps, leather shoes, and eye protection to help prevent weld burns and injury. The welder and all observers must wear welding helmets with the appropriate filter lens strength for the type of welding being done. Arc welding requires a No. 10 to 12 filter lens. MIG welding requires at least a No. 10 shaded lens. TIG welding requires a No. 11 or 12 shaded filter lens.
13. **Protect welding cables.** Keep the cables from coming in contact with hot metal and sharp edges. Do not drive over cables. When welding, avoid wrapping electrode cables around your body.
14. **Do not allow electrode to stick.** If the electrode sticks, cut off the switch, allow electrode to cool, and then break it loose with your gloved hand.

Plasma Cutter Safety

1. Eye and ear protection should be worn at all times. Glasses with a number **5 or 6** shade should be worn at all times.
2. Never use the plasma cutter around flammable material.
3. Always use pliers or tongs when handling hot material.
4. The torch should always stay perpendicular to the work piece.
5. Properly ground the plasma cutter before using.