

Proper Insulating Rubber Glove Care, Use & Testing

Gloves must be tested by a NAIL-accredited test facility before first use!

Legislation mandates the use of insulating rubber gloves, mats, shields, arc flash clothing and other protective equipment and procedures adequate to ensure protection from electrical shock and burns while performing work on or near live electrical equipment (refer to provincial legislation). When selecting gloves for specific applications, see ASTM chart below to identify maximum use voltages. To maintain the highest level of insulating protection and ensure long life, it is essential that gloves are properly cared for, stored, inspected and electrically tested on a regular basis. All gloves must meet ASTM D120 manufacturing standards, and must be tested by a NAIL-accredited facility before first use (and tested regularly thereafter) to ensure compliance to legislation/standards (CSA Z462/ASTM 496). Lineman's Testing Laboratories (LTL) remains current with legislation, and offers training on the proper selection, care, use, and recertification of insulating rubber gloves. All rubber goods are tested in LTL's NAIL-accredited high voltage test facility per ASTM 496.

PROPER USE AND INSPECTION

- Visually inspect insulating rubber gloves (inside & out) for damage prior to use and after any incident suspected of causing damage.
- Remove all jewelry and sharp objects from your arms or hands before wearing gloves; they may cause damage to the rubber gloves which will affect glove safety and performance. Insulating rubber gloves will be damaged by petroleum based products (oil, grease), marker, pen, adhesives, etc. Should the gloves be exposed to any such materials, recertification is required before further use.
- **DO NOT use defective or suspected defective gloves** (signs of cuts, severe scratches, holes, cracks, burns, ozone cutting/checking, contamination from foreign matter, swelling, or loss of normal elasticity (chemical deterioration)).
- Cloth gloves (liners) may be worn inside the insulating rubber gloves for warmth in cold weather and to absorb perspiration in hot weather.

MECHANICAL PROTECTION

- Leather protectors must be worn over insulating rubber gloves to provide mechanical protection against cuts, abrasions, and punctures as well as protect the rubber gloves from possible physical damage in use. They are specifically designed and are to be used solely for the purpose of protecting the rubber gloves. (Shall comply with ASTM F696). The inner surface of the protectors should be inspected as often as that of the rubber gloves.

CARE AND STORAGE

The life and effectiveness of your rubber insulating gloves is dependent on many factors including proper cleaning and storage.

- To clean insulating rubber gloves, wash with a mild soap and rinse thoroughly with water. Only use soapy water or denatured alcohol to clean label area. Air dry the gloves. Keep away from direct sunlight and sources of ozone or high heat.
- When not in use, store dry insulating rubber gloves in a protective bag in a cool, dark, and dry location. Ensure the area is free from ozone, chemicals, oils, solvents, damaging vapours or fumes, and away from electrical discharges and sunlight. Do not store gloves folded, creased, inside out, compressed, or in any manner which may cause stretching or compression.

PROPER RUBBER INSULATING GLOVE SIZING

- Proper fit is important. Measure the circumference around the palm. Allow for additional room if fabric glove liners are to be worn, especially with thermal liners.



RECERTIFICATION SCHEDULE

LTL adheres strictly to testing procedures in accordance to ASTM F496. ASTM F496 For in-service care of insulating gloves and sleeves: re-test requirements not to exceed six months. Infrastructure Health & Safety Association (E&USA Rule 134) recommends testing of insulating rubber gloves every 90 days in a certified testing laboratory.

ASTM CHART

CLEARANCE TABLE FOR LEATHER PROTECTORS (per ASTM F496-Table 4)			CLASS COLOUR	PROOF TEST VOLTAGE AC / DC	MAX USE VOLTAGE AC / DC *	RUBBER MOLDED PRODUCTS LABEL	GLOVE LABEL	RUBBER DIPPED SLEEVE LABEL	
Minimum Distance Between Protectors & Rubber Gloves (inches)									
Minimum Distance from Protector and Rubber Glove	GLOVE CLASS	LEATHER PROTECTOR CUFF							
		Cuff Line							
	00, 0	1/2	1/2" from cuff	00 BEIGE	2,500 / 10,000	500 / 750*			
	1	1	1" from cuff	0 RED	5,000 / 20,000	1,000 / 1,500*			
	2	2	2" from cuff	1 WHITE	10,000 / 40,000	7,500 / 11,250*			
3	3	3" from cuff	2 YELLOW	20,000 / 50,000	17,000 / 25,500*				
4	4	4" from cuff	3 GREEN	30,000 / 60,000	26,500 / 39,750*				
			4 ORANGE	40,000 / 70,000	36,000 / 54,000*				

* Maximum use voltage when worn with leather protectors



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