

Wet Concrete: Prevent Skin and Eye Contact

Todd Jerome Jenkins | v1.0 | Reviewed October 6, 2026 | Discussion + field checks

Why this matters

Wet cement can injure skin before pain warns you. Concrete trapped inside a glove, boot or clothing can keep contacting the skin. Plan how to prevent contact and how to remove contamination promptly if it occurs.

Objective: Show how today's work prevents wet-cement contact and where to wash or obtain emergency help.

Key hazards or failure points

Splashes to eyes or skin; cement inside PPE; kneeling in wet material; contaminated clothing; unavailable washing facilities; delayed response because contact does not hurt.

Practical controls

- Use tools, work position and an approved method that keep skin away from wet concrete. Do not kneel directly in it. Arrange suitable protection for any necessary kneeling or contact risk.
- Select gloves, boots, clothing and eye/face protection for the actual product and task using its safety data sheet (SDS), PPE instructions and employer assessment. Keep cement from entering openings; ordinary workwear is not automatically chemical protection.
- Make washing and emergency eye-flushing arrangements ready before the pour. Provide clean replacement PPE/clothing and explain the reporting and medical-help process.

Verify It in the Field

The leader and workers review the product SDS, particularly first aid and protection, and match the selected PPE model to its manufacturer's suitability information. Check condition, fit, coverage and clean, dry interiors before work.

Walk to the washing point. Confirm clean water, appropriate soap, supplies and unobstructed access are actually available. Check emergency flushing equipment by its prescribed process; a bottle on a shelf does not establish adequate emergency provision.

With clean equipment, show how contaminated items can be removed without spreading cement. Record the PPE/source, washing check, unresolved gaps, checker and time on the separate field sheet.

Stop and reassess

Stop for cement inside PPE, skin/eye contact, failed washing arrangements or damaged protection. Promptly remove contaminated items and wash exposed skin with clean, cool water and pH-neutral soap. For eye contact, begin immediate flushing and get urgent medical help; follow the SDS. Seek prompt medical assessment for suspected burns or skin changes. Do not wait for pain.

Ask the crew

1. Where could wet concrete enter our clothing or PPE today?
2. Show the washing point and evidence that our selected PPE suits this product.
3. What will you do immediately after contact, and who will arrange help?

Before exposure: prevent contact, prepare washing and act promptly if contact occurs.

Sources: OSHA 3351, 1926.51/.95/.50; NIOSH Portland cement; actual product SDS.

Free next step: [JHA/JSA planning & field-verification worksheet](#)

Expanded guidance, references, supervisor check and attendance record accompany this talk.