



GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING CUT STANDARDS

Cut resistance in occupational gloves are measured on a scale of either A1-thru-A9 based on the new [ANSI/ISEA 2016](#) standard or 0-to-5 or A-thru-F based on the new [EN388:2016](#) standard. It is important to understand the protection levels associated with each standard as well as the most appropriate levels for specific applications.

ANSI Cut Standard



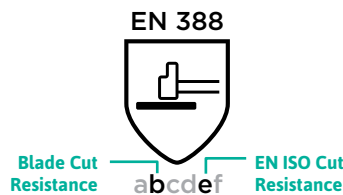
Cut resistance standard from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) became effective in March 2016.

ANSI / ISEA 105 CUT STANDARD			
CUT LEVEL RATING	RESISTANCE (GRAMS)	PROTECTION LEVEL	APPLICATIONS
A1	200 - 499	Very Low	Screwing and unscrewing / Inspection and packing of small components / Shipping and receiving / Warehouse work / Raw materials reception / General handling
A2	500 - 999	Low	Wire assembly and fastening / Metal part and component assembly / Light metal presses / Whitegoods assembly / Glass repair / Plastics injection and moulding / Grinding and fettling / Building materials handling / Stamping operations
A3	1,000 - 1,499	Moderate	Raw materials handling / Glass manufacturing / Hardware assembly / Glass or metal sheet handling / Stamping / Body shop work (excluding welding)
A4	1,500 - 2,199	Moderate to High	Metal parts and components assembly / Automated welding and feeding / Metal finish inspection / Machine tool operation / Sheet metals and metalwork
A5	2,200 - 2,999	High	Waste handling (recycling and sorting glass, cans or other metal pieces) / Handling heavy loads and metal edges / Handling glass sheets or shard-edged objects
A6	3,000 - 3,999	High to Very High	Maintenance work / Materials handling
A7	4,000 - 4,999	Very High	Cutting of dry, painted or galvanised metal pieces / Maintenance work / Stamping
A8	5,000 - 5,999	Very High to Extreme	Heavy assembly / Machining and grinding
A9	6,000+	Extreme	Metal press work / Primary assembly

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EN Cut Standard



The EN388 shield pictogram can report up to 6 separate mechanical performance measures. The original Blade Cut test score in position “b” is measured on a scale of 0-to-5 as determined by the EN Coup test. The new EN ISO Cut Resistance score in position “e” measures on a scale of A-thru-F.

EN 388:2016 CUT STANDARD

CUT LEVEL RATING	RESISTANCE (NEWTONS)	PROTECTION LEVEL	APPLICATIONS
A	2	Minimal to Low	Screwing and unscrewing / Raw materials reception / General handling / Shipping and receiving / Warehouse work / Inspection and packing of small components
B	5	Low	Wire assembly and fastening / Metal part and component assembly / Plastics injection and moulding / Light metal presses / Whitegoods assembly / Glass repair / Grinding and fettling / Building materials handling / Stamping operations
C	10	Low to Moderate	Body shop work (excluding welding) / Glass or metal sheet handling / Stamping / Hardware assembly / Raw materials handling / Glass manufacturing
D	15	Moderate to High	Metal parts and components assembly / Automated welding and feeding / Metal finish inspection / Machine tool operation / Sheet metals and metalwork
E	22	High	Waste handling (recycling and sorting glass, cans or other metal pieces) / Handling heavy loads and metal edges / Handling glass sheets or shard-edged objects / Metal sheet handling / Cutting of dry, painted or galvanised metal pieces
F	30	Extreme	Heavy final assembly / Machining and grinding / Maintenance work / Materials handling / Metal press work / Primary assembly / Stamping

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