



Ansell



# 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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Cut resistance in occupational gloves are measured on a scale of 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.

## 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 handing (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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