

## Guidelines on Hard Hat Replacement, Style and Manner of Use

**Non-Mandatory Recommendation:** It is a good practice is to replace the shell (hard plastic part) at least every 5 years, especially if the hard hat is frequently exposed to sunlight.

### Guidance

<p>The date of manufacture of the shell of a hard hat can often be determined from a label or embossing on the hard hat.</p> <p>The date of manufacture of the harness and webbing is typically not indicated by the manufacturer.</p>	
<p>The date of manufacture of the shell is typically found inside the helmet, often on the underside of the brim or at the top of the inner helmet as embossed into the plastic or as a label.)</p> <p>Hard hats without a manufacturer date stamp or label are over 5 years old.</p>	<p>Date of manufacturer typical location</p> 
<p>Any style of hard hat (including front bill, cowboy or full brim styles) is acceptable if it meets ANSI Z89.1 specifications.</p>	
<p>Wearing hard hats backwards (i.e., bill in the rear) is acceptable if the equipment is marked by the manufacturer with the "reverse donning arrow".</p>	
<p>Labels and reflective tape may be added to hard hats. Avoid using felt-tip markers to write on equipment as in the ink may degrade the plastic.</p>	