

WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE

Protective Gloves for Wildland Fire Fighting NFPA 1977 - 2022

This WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE provides the end user with important information about safe use, care, and maintenance and should be retained for further reference.

To be removed by the end user only.

DANGER

Before wearing your gloves, you are advised to review this WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE. By wearing your gloves, you are confirming that you have read and completely understand the information and instructions provided.

Do NOT use these gloves if you have NOT read and understand this WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE. Do NOT use these gloves if you have NOT read and understand the information on the product label sewn inside your gloves. Do NOT use these gloves if you have NOT been trained and supervised for their proper use.

These gloves will NOT protect you from all hazards under all conditions.

These gloves must be worn as a part of your complete protective garments. It is the responsibility of your department or organization to determine the suitability of these gloves for their intended use, when the gloves must be worn together with other garments and to ensure that the selected garments work together to provide the intended protection.

You must properly care for, clean, inspect, store and maintain the gloves according to the recommended instructions in this guide in order for the gloves to provide effective protection.

YOU MAY SUSTAIN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE SPECIAL TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE TO CORRECTLY USE THESE GLOVES, AND/OR HAVE NOT READ THIS WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE.

INTRODUCTION

THANK YOU for selecting these Majestic Fire Apparel, Inc. wildland firefighting gloves. Your gloves are intended to provide limited protection to your hands as an interface component of properly selected and configured protective garments during wildland firefighting activities. Firefighting is an extremely and unavoidably dangerous activity. The number of hazards encountered at fire and emergency scenes are limitless and constantly changing. It is impossible to list all types of hazards which you will confront. While your gloves are designed to provide protection against a number of fireground hazards, **your gloves will NOT protect you against all exposures and under all conditions**, even when worn properly. You must exercise caution at all times to avoid hazards for all operations.

This WARNING & USER INFORMATION GUIDE provides information and instructions related to the selection, use, care and maintenance of your gloves. This guide does NOT tell you when and under what circumstances you should wear your gloves. This guide tells you how to wear your gloves and provides an understanding of the limitations in how your gloves may or may NOT protect you. Determining the suitability of your gloves for specific emergency operations rests with your department or employer, who has the legal responsibility to conduct a hazard assessment and decide if your gloves provide appropriate protection against encountered hazards.

In addition to this guide, which provides basic information to adequately care for and maintain your gloves, please refer to NFPA 1877 for additional procedures that should be performed only by trained and qualified personnel (such as, but NOT limited to INSPECTION, CLEANING, DECONTAMINATION, STORAGE, AND RETIREMENT).



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REVIEW BEFORE USING

General Construction and Features: Your gloves have been manufactured to comply with and are certified to NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Wildland Fire Fighting, current edition at time of manufacture. MFA, Inc. gloves are constructed of fire-retardant materials that cover the wearer's hands. Descriptions of the available types of fire-retardant materials and different style features are provided on MFA, Inc.'s website at www.majhoods.com

Safety Considerations and Use Limitations: It is critically important that you have read and understood this guide and the label provided on your gloves PRIOR to using. In order to reduce your risks (but NOT eliminate risk) do NOT wear these gloves unless:

Glove Marking Recommendations and Restrictions: If permitted by your department or organization, for identification purposes, you may mark your gloves. Mark your gloves in areas that are NOT exposed during normal wearing. If you mark the product label (sewn into gloves), do NOT write over or obscure information on the product label. When marking, use an indelible marker. DO NOT use heat transfers or bonding of any kind.

You understand Label, Warning & User Information Guide and Applicable Standards: You have read, fully understood and strictly follow this guide and all labels for these gloves; the NFPA standard listed on the glove certification label and applicable national; state/provincial and local regulations pertinent to emergency operations.

Your Use is In Accordance with Applicable Standards and Regulations: Your use of these gloves is consistent with NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, and Code of Federal Regulations Title 29, Part 1910 Subpart I-Personal Protective Equipment, 1910.132 General Requirements, and any specific regulations that pertain to your local area. Knowledge of the design, performance, use limitations and content of NFPA 1977 and NFPA 1877 standards is also recommended.

Need for Hazard/Risk Assessment: Your department, organization or employer has conducted a hazard/risk assessment and, by issuing you these gloves, has determined that these gloves provide a suitable/acceptable level of protection against identified hazards for the particular emergency operations consistent with applicable national, state/provincial and local regulations.

Your Gloves are Properly Adjusted: Your gloves must be adjusted and worn properly to provide protection to your hands and wrist that are NOT covered by the shirt or coat sleeve.

Limitations of Protection: You have been trained and understand that gloves do NOT provide protection from all hazards and you have been trained and understand how to properly select and properly use the appropriate gloves to meet the expected exposure/hazard.

Burn Injury: Your gloves will NOT protect you from all burns, injuries, diseases, conditions or hazards. If your gloves are exposed to radiant, convective or conductive heat, or comes in contact with a hot environment or hot object, you may be burned underneath the gloves with no warning and no sign of damage to the gloves.

Heat Sensation Awareness: Wearing these gloves may lessen your ability to feel heat. Do NOT be misled by the absence of heat or discomfort while wearing your gloves, you can be burned or injured suddenly without warning. While wearing these gloves, feeling heat, any discomfort or an unusual sensation may indicate you have already been burned or are about to be burned. Be constantly aware and alert to the possibility of exposure to heat and other hazards, exercising caution at all times.

Products of Combustion: Wearing your gloves in a wildland or other type of fire will result in its contamination with smoke particulates, fire gases and other potentially toxic substances that can result in continued exposure, which requires frequent cleaning.

Additional Hazards: Your gloves (even if properly maintained, clean and dry) may NOT protect you from electrical shock. Wet, dirty and/or contaminated gloves may increase your risk of death, burns or injuries. Your gloves will NOT protect you from all physical hazards. Your gloves may be penetrated, cut or torn by sharp surfaces or objects. Do NOT use your gloves if contaminated, cut, punctured, worn, abraded or altered from its original condition.

Complete Protective Garments: These gloves are effective only when properly worn, accounting for a proper interface with your wildland firefighting PPE. These gloves are part of complete protective garments that includes appropriate elements for your overall protection and is consistent with your organization/departments hazard and risk assessment.

Care and Maintenance: These gloves must be properly inspected, maintained, cleaned, stored and cared for by your department, organization or employer consistent with these instructions and applicable national, state/provincial and local regulations. Any soiling, contamination, damage and any alteration that would compromise the integrity and protection that these gloves provide, warrants their disposal.

Warranty: These gloves are NOT warranted to be fit for a particular purpose. Carefully read the WARRANTY information. If the product label in the glove is missing or becomes unreadable, contact MFA, Inc. for further instructions (which may include retiring gloves from service).

Design and Performance Requirements: Representative samples of your gloves have been evaluated for a number of design and performance requirements as set forth in NFPA 1977, current edition. Such test requirements include; flame resistance, thermal protective performance, heat and thermal shrinkage resistance, conductive heat resistance, cut resistance, puncture resistance, thread melting, thread breaking strength, label durability, dexterity test and grip test. These performance requirements/properties cannot be evaluated in the field, so if you have questions, check with your department or organization, which in turn can contact MFA, Inc.



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WARRANTY

Your gloves are warranted, by MFA, Inc., to be free from defects in material and workmanship for one year as long as the gloves are properly used and maintained in accordance with this user information guide. This warranty specifically excludes accidental damage, intentional or unintentional abuse, natural disasters, damage caused by disregarding care instructions and normal wear. This warranty does NOT cover normal wear or unusual exposures. This warranty does not cover damage due to exposure to ultraviolet light, chemicals, loss of performance due to normal wear or heat exposure, common fire environment hazards or improper use, storage care of maintenance. This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, including but NOT limited to, implied warranties or marketability and/or fitness for a particular purpose. MFA, Inc. shall NOT be liable for incidental or consequential damages.

INSPECTIONS

Your department or organization should have a compliant, systematic, routine and regularly scheduled inspections of your gloves. Full written documentation of these inspections should be kept. Inspect your gloves prior to their first use and prior to every use.

BEFORE FIRST USE INSPECTION: Prior to using the gloves for the first time, ensure that the gloves do NOT have any construction flaws or was damaged when being put into service.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS: Upon inspection, if any of the below conditions exist, without delay alert the supervisor of your department or organization and request a determination on the continued service ability of your gloves.

Prior to every use, INSPECT your gloves for:

- * soiling and/or contamination,
- * physical damage such as, but NOT limited to, rips, holes, tears, frays, torn or unraveled knit wristlet, abrasions or cuts,
- * thermal damage such as, but NOT limited to, charring, burn holes and melting.
- * damage to any special layers,
- * seams (stitches) integrity – no broken or missing stitches,
- * shrinkage,
- * label legibility – labels should NOT be removed and information/markings should be legible,
- * questionable appearance or characteristics

Your gloves should be subjected to a more thorough inspection at least every 12 months, after every cleaning, or whenever there is a concern about its condition for continued service (potential damage). Inspections must be carried out by an individual within your department or organization who has been trained to perform the inspection. Full written documentation of these inspections should be kept that includes the dates of inspection and any findings.

SIZING

Only wear products of a suitable size. Products which are either too loose or too tight will restrict movement and will not provide the optimum level of protection. The size of the protective gloves is marked on the inside label. Wildland fire fighting gloves are available in the following sizes:

Letter size	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL
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Follow the donning instructions provided to ensure correct wearing of your gloves.



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WEARING INSTRUCTIONS

DONNING PROCEDURES: Use the following steps for putting on gloves:

1. Don your gloves after you have donned your protective coat.
2. Put the gloves on securely by using the leather pull tab at the wristlet or glove body.
3. DO NOT pull on the glove hem material.
4. Ensure that the middle three fingers go to the ends of the glove fingertips, for maximum fingertip dexterity.

INTERFACE-ISSUES AND ADJUSTMENTS FOR FIT: Your gloves must fit properly and NOT interfere with other protective garments to ensure your proper protection. Only wear gloves that interface with garment sleeves.

DOFFING PROCEDURES: Removing your gloves procedure varies depending on whether or NOT your gloves are CONTAMINATED:

DOFFING NO CONTAMINATION - use the following steps for removing your gloves:

1. Using a gloved hand, pull each finger and thumb separately to remove, DO NOT pull on the hem material.
2. DO NOT peel off your gloves using the wristlet or gauntlet cuff.
3. Inspect your gloves as indicated in the instructions noted before.
4. Clean and store your gloves as indicated in these instructions.

DOFFING CONTAMINATED - if your gloves have become contaminated with smoke particulate, fire gases, blood, body fluids, toxins, chemicals, or other hazardous substances, use extreme caution in removing your gloves. DO NOT contact the surface of your gloves with your bare hands. Undertake Preliminary Exposure Reduction to aid in the removal of surface contamination when leaving the fireground or other emergency event when exposure has occurred, as described in NFPA 1877. You may seek assistance in removing your gloves and other parts of your ensemble to minimize your exposure to any contaminants. Avoid spreading contaminants to your personal belongings, your living quarters, interior spaces, and vehicles. Any damage or change in the condition of your gloves must be assessed or corrected before you reuse your gloves.

CARE, MAINTENANCE, CLEANING, AND STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPER CARE, MAINTENANCE, CLEANING AND STORAGE OF GLOVES: It is important that you keep your gloves clean, free of contamination, properly maintained and correctly stored at all times. Gloves that are dirty or contaminated pose significant hazards. The wearing of soiled or contaminated gloves can cause acute or long-term health hazards. Many contaminants can be absorbed through/by the skin and some are carcinogenic. Many contaminants are flammable. Gloves that are soiled do NOT provide adequate protective performance or requirements. Refer to NFPA 1877 - *Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Wildland Firefighting Protective Clothing and Equipment* for additional guidance. A thorough knowledge of the content of NFPA 1877 publication is recommended. If cleaned and maintained properly, gloves will continue to offer their protective properties, but will NOT do so indefinitely.

Determine the appropriate application of cleaning procedures in accordance with the charts and guidance provided in Chapter 7 of NFPA 1877.

CLEANING: Your gloves should be subjected to cleaning whenever they are contaminated or their soiling requires additional cleaning AND at least every 6 months, resulting in a minimum of two cleanings in a 12-month period. Cleaning must be carried out by an individual with your department or organization that is qualified by your department or organization. Records of Cleanings should be kept that include the date of cleaning, who cleaned the gloves, and the type of cleaning.

DO NOT use gloves that are not thoroughly cleaned and dried.



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GLOVES ARE TO BE HAND WASHED ONLY. All cleaning should be subject to preventative measures and precautions listed below.

CLEANING PREVENTIVE MEASURES / PRECAUTIONS: Improper cleaning can severely damage gloves.

- * DO NOT USE CHLORINE BLEACH OR DETERGENTS CONTAINING CHLORINE (such substances can compromise the protective qualities of your gloves by rapidly breaking down glove materials)
- * DO NOT USE FABRIC SOFTENERS OR DETERGENTS CONTAINING FABRIC SOFTENERS
- * DO NOT WASH YOUR GLOVES WITH PERSONAL ITEMS
- * DO NOT COMMERCIALY DRY CLEAN
- * DO NOT LINE-DRY IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT
- * DO NOT STORE IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT
- * DO NOT USE A WASHING MACHINE NOR EXTRACTOR (GLOVES ARE HAND WASH ONLY)
- * DO NOT WASH YOUR GLOVES WITH YOUR WORK UNIFORM OR PERSONAL LAUNDRY
- * DO NOT USE HARSH (HIGH ALKALINE) DETERGENTS OR SOLVENTS AS CLEANING AGENTS (any cleaning agent must have a pH no lower than 6.0 and no higher than 10.5)
- * DO NOT USE WASH TEMPERATURES THAT EXCEED 105°F (unless required for specialized cleaning)
- * DO NOT USE A DRYER (air dry in a well-ventilated area)
- * ALWAYS TREAT GLOVES AS BEING CONTAMINATED (wear protective gloves, goggles or a faceshield, and an apron; wear a respirator if the gloves are heavily soiled or subjected to fireground contamination)

HAND WASH CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS: Use a utility sink or other container of sufficient size with the following procedures:

1. Brush off any loose debris with a soft bristle brush. Should any debris or materials adhere to the components/fabric of the gloves, remove the gloves from service until they can be inspected and/or cleaned to a serviceable condition.
2. Fill the utility sink or container with water, no warmer than 105°F and a mild detergent.
3. Allow the gloves to presoak for a period of at least 10 minutes.
4. Lightly rub the gloves together, starting with the exterior and then turning the gloves and similarly rub the interior material against itself. A soft wash cloth can also be used for washing the gloves.
5. DO NOT stretch or wring out the gloves as this will distort and damage the gloves. Excess water may be squeezed (NOT WRUNG) from the leather.
6. Thoroughly rinse the gloves following washing. If using a separate container rather than a utility sink, a separate container with clean warm water can be used for this purpose. Garments shall be, at a minimum, double rinsed.
7. Following rinsing, shape the gloves and allow to air dry in a well-ventilated area.

STORAGE: Store your gloves only when they are clean, dry and free of contamination. Storing wet gloves will promote growth of germs, bacteria, mildew, fungus, or other harmful substances with the potential to cause skin irritation, rashes, diseases and/or illnesses. Wet conditions can also lead to deterioration of glove materials. Keep gloves away from potential contaminants such as oils, greases or other chemical substances. Store your gloves in a dry, clean, ventilated area, away from direct sunlight and away from tools or other sharp objects. Do NOT store your gloves with your personal belongings or in a personal living area.



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REPAIRS

Do NOT attempt to repair your gloves. If damaged, report the damage to your supervisor, department or organization and obtain new gloves as a replacement.

ALTERATIONS/ MODIFICATIONS

Do NOT attempt to alter or modify your gloves. Gloves should NOT be altered to accommodate aftermarket accessories. Any aftermarket alteration, modification or addition will VOID the WARRANTY and will impact the SEI Certification of compliance with the current NFPA standard. The only modification permitted is the **MARKING RECOMMENDATION** below:

MARKING RECOMMENDATION: If permitted by your department or organization, for identification purposes, you may mark your gloves. Mark your gloves in areas that are NOT exposed during normal wearing. If you mark the product label (sewn into gloves), do NOT write over or obscure information on the product label. When marking, use an indelible marker. DO NOT use heat transfers or bonding of any kind.

RETIREMENT AND DISPOSAL

The decision for the continued service of your gloves must be made by a qualified individual within your department or organization. If you have doubts about your gloves and its condition, immediately bring this matter to the attention of your supervisor, department or organization. Protective gloves that are no longer deemed serviceable (withdrawn from service) for reasons of damage, contamination or other unsafe condition must be disposed of in a manner whereby the gloves cannot be reused (such as cutting gloves into pieces). Contaminated gloves must be disposed of by your department or organization in accordance with federal, state/provincial or local regulations. If you are burned or injured while you are wearing these gloves, your gloves must be withdrawn/removed from service and retained by your department or organization for an appropriate period as determined by your department or organization.



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