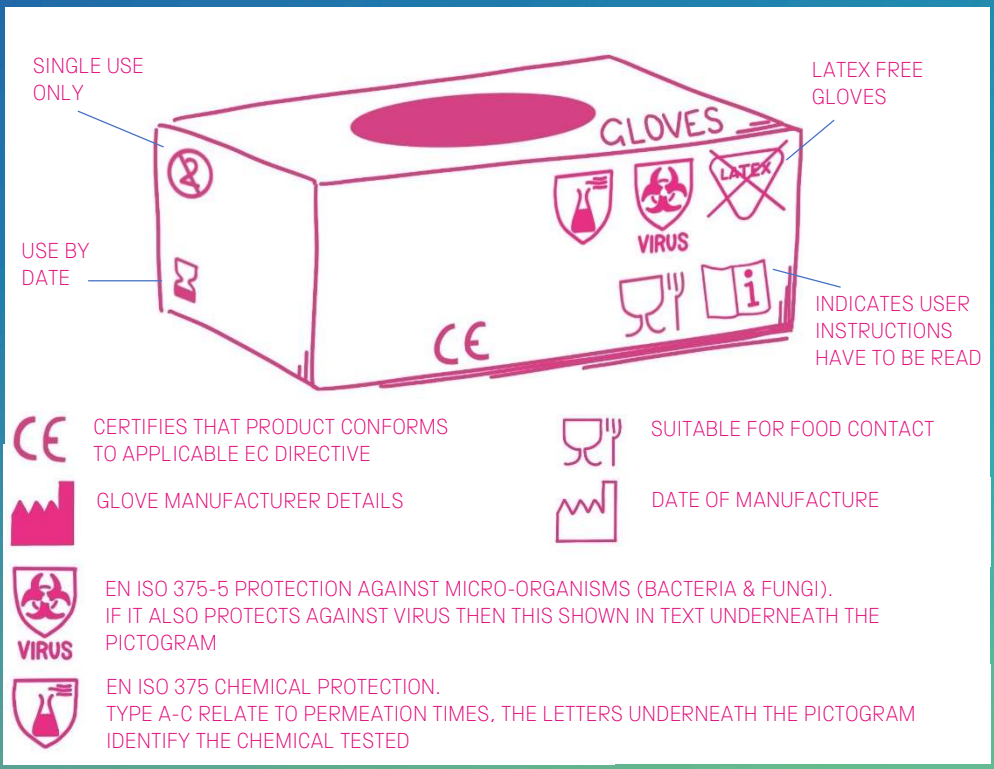
A HANDY GLOVE GUIDE

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

Not all gloves are made equal, here is our guide to understanding the codes and pictograms supplied with either the data sheet or on the box of gloves itself which will help you identify what glove is best for the task at hand.



CE — CERTIFIES THAT PRODUCT CONFORMS TO APPLICABLE EC DIRECTIVE

SUITABLE FOR FOOD CONTACT

GLOVE MANUFACTURER DETAILS

DATE OF MANUFACTURE

VIRUS — EN ISO 375-5 PROTECTION AGAINST MICRO-ORGANISMS (BACTERIA & FUNGI). IF IT ALSO PROTECTS AGAINST VIRUS THEN THIS SHOWN IN TEXT UNDERNEATH THE PICTOGRAM

EN ISO 375 CHEMICAL PROTECTION. TYPE A-C RELATE TO PERMEATION TIMES, THE LETTERS UNDERNEATH THE PICTOGRAM IDENTIFY THE CHEMICAL TESTED

Gloves can be grouped into 3 main categories:

Lab/industrial | Medical | Food use

Usually medical or lab/industrial are best for conservation. But medical gloves do not always provide chemical resistance so check the relevant codes.

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Code Explanations

AQL (Acceptable Quality Limit)	This is a quality measure. For general lab use and object handling **aim for a minimum standard of 1.5** , the lower the AQL number, the better the standard of glove.
CAT I, II & III	CAT I: PPE designed to protect user from minimal risks CAT II: PPE protects from risks not included in CAT I OR II CAT III: PPE protects from risks that may cause serious consequences **Aim for a CAT III to protect against chemicals and micro-organisms**
EN 420 & EN 455	Basic glove standards which are connected to size and materials used
EN ISO 374-1	Chemical Protection Type A: 6 chemicals tested, breakthrough time longer than 30 min Type B: 3 chemicals tested, breakthrough time longer than 30 min Type C: 1 chemical tested, breakthrough time longer than 10 min Letters underneath the pictogram identify the chemicals tested A: Methanol, B: Acetone, D: Dichloromethane F: Toluene, K: Sodium Hydroxide (40%) L: Sulphuric Acid (96%), M: Nitric Acid (65%), N: Acetic Acid (99%), O: Ammonium Hydroxide, P: Hydrogen Peroxide (30%)
EN ISO 374-2	Resistance to penetration by chemicals
EN 16523-1	Resistance to permeation by chemicals
EN ISO 374-4	Resistance to degradation by chemicals
EN ISO 374-5	Protection against micro-organisms (bacteria and fungi) If it protects against virus this is shown in text underneath the pictogram

Handy Reference List

Handling mouldy items?	EN 374-5 protects against micro-organisms (bacteria & fungi)
Gloves keep breaking?	EN 388 Provides greater mechanical strength
Cold working?	EN 511 Protection against cold
Handling radioactive objects?	EN 421 Protection from Radioactive particle contamination