Safety at Work:
Laser Safety goggles,
warning signs,
and labels
Laser Safety

Laser Safety goggles 136
Laser safety warning signs 138
Laser safety labels 138
Safety at Work: Laser Safety Goggles

Laser safety and laser adjustment goggles

- Laser safety goggles are recommended when working with lower power lasers from laser protection class 3R and beyond, such as all visible lasers from Schäfter+Kirchhoff with up to 5 mW of output power.
- Laser safety goggles are mandatory for protection class 3B and beyond, such as all invisible infrared lasers and all visible lasers from Schäfter+Kirchhoff with more than 5 mW of output power.
- The correct handling and use of laser safety goggles protects you and your colleagues against eye injuries from hazardous laser radiation.
- The type of frame is dependent upon whether glass or plastic filters are fitted. Laser safety goggles with glass filters (Order Code RX7) have a heavier frame with a facility for attaching personal spectacles, according to individual requirements. Laser safety goggles with plastic filters are lighter and can be worn over normal spectacles.
- The two distinct protective functions of either full protection goggles or alignment protection goggles need emphasizing (see box below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wavelength</th>
<th>Eye Damage caused by Radiation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;100 nm</td>
<td>Keratitis and conjunctivitis (pink eye)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 – 315 nm</td>
<td>Eye cataract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315 – 400 nm</td>
<td>Photochemical and thermal injury of the retina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 – 1400 nm</td>
<td>Eye cataract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 – 1000 μm</td>
<td>Burning of the cornea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;1 mm</td>
<td>Microwave</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VLT (visible light transmission): in addition to the specified wavelengths, laser protection goggles also attenuate ambient light. The VLT is expressed as the percent transmitted daylight.

OD (optical density): logarithmic scale for the attenuation of radiation at a specified wavelength. The OD at wavelength λ is defined as:

\[ OD(\lambda) = -\log_{10} (\tau(\lambda)) \]
Laser Safety Goggles

**Full Protection Goggles DIN EN 207**

VLT = 10%

Order Code: F18.P1H03.1001

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>610 - 630</td>
<td>LB3</td>
<td>$10^{-2}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>630 - 850</td>
<td>LB4</td>
<td>$10^{-4}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>660 - 710</td>
<td>LB5</td>
<td>$10^{-5}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>710 - 730</td>
<td>LB4</td>
<td>$10^{-4}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>730 - 790</td>
<td>LB5</td>
<td>$10^{-5}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full protection goggles for cw lasers in the 600 - 800 nm wavelength range

**Full Protection Goggles DIN EN 207**

VLT = 30%

Order Code: F18.P1L02.1001

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>315 - 532</td>
<td>LB6</td>
<td>$10^{-6}$</td>
<td>$10^{5}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full protection goggles for cw lasers in the 315 – 532 nm wavelength range

**Full and Alignment Protection Goggles DIN EN 207 / DIN EN 207**

VLT = 42%

Order Code: F18.P1H02.1001

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alignment</td>
<td>660 - 675</td>
<td>RB2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100 mW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>720 - 820</td>
<td>LB5</td>
<td>$10^{-5}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alignment protection goggles are for lasers in the 660 - 675 nm wavelength range. Full protection goggles for the 720 - 820 nm wavelength range.

**Full and Alignment Protection Goggles DIN EN 208/DIN EN 207**

VLT = 35%

Order Code: F18.P1H01.1001

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>770 - 800</td>
<td>LB4</td>
<td>$10^{-4}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>800 - 1100</td>
<td>LB5</td>
<td>$10^{-5}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full protection goggles for lasers in the 770 – 1100 nm wavelength range

**Laser Alignment Goggles**

**Full Protection Goggles DIN EN 207**

VLT = 25%

Order Code: R01.T1A02

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alignment</td>
<td>630 - 690</td>
<td>RB2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100 mW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alignment protection goggles for cw lasers in the 630 – 690 nm wavelength range.

**Full Protection Goggles DIN EN 207**

VLT = 35%

Order Code: R01.T1Q01

**Usable Range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>690 - 1320</td>
<td>LB5</td>
<td>$10^{-5}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>1320 - 1550</td>
<td>LB2</td>
<td>$10^{-2}$</td>
<td>$10^{4}$ W/m²</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All-round googles as full protection for cw lasers in the 690–1500 nm wavelength range.

Please Note: Typical density curves for the respective filters are shown for information only and are not guaranteed values. Only the protection levels (RB.. or LB..) are guaranteed by Schäfter+Kirchhoff.
Laser Safety: Warning Triangle Laser Labels

**Table 1:** Triangled Laser Labels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>row</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Order Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Triangle 10 mm</td>
<td>SK-LB-T1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Triangle 46 mm</td>
<td>SK-LB-T2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Triangle 92 mm</td>
<td>SK-LB-T3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Triangle 185 mm</td>
<td>SK-LB-T4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Laser Safety: Laser Classification Labels

Order Options for Laser Labels

- **Order Code**
  - SK-LB - 3B - 633 - 26 - HeNe - 105x52 - BI - E
- **Label size**
  - 105 x 52 mm type 1
  - 148 x 74 mm type 2
  - 64 x 34 mm type 2

Laser Safety

To be in accordance with DIN IEC 60825-1:2007, every laser system must be labelled with a warning triangle. Additionally, all lasers must be labelled with additional warning information specific to the laser class:

- **Class 1:**
  - CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 1M:**
  - LASER RADIATION, DO NOT VIEW DIRECTLY WITH OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CLASS 1M LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 2:**
  - LASER RADIATION, DO NOT STARE INTO BEAM, CLASS 2 LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 2M:**
  - LASER RADIATION, DO NOT STARE INTO BEAM OR VIEW DIRECTLY WITH OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CLASS 2M LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 3R:**
  - LASER RADIATION, AVOID DIRECT EYE EXPOSURE, CLASS 3R LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 3B:**
  - LASER RADIATION, AVOID EXPOSURE TO THE BEAM, CLASS 3B LASER PRODUCT *
- **Class 4:**
  - LASER RADIATION, AVOID EYE OR SKIN EXPOSURE TO DIRECT OR SCATTERED RADIATION, CLASS 4 LASER PRODUCT *

Furthermore, all lasers of class 2 to 4 must exhibit a warning that lists the laser specifications, including the laser source, the wavelength and the laser power or pulse energy.

If the laser is enclosed but the housing can be opened then the housing must also be labelled with a warning triangle and the requisite information about the laser class, as listed below:

- **Class 1:**
  - The laser is safe for any form of measurement task and the maximum permitted exposure (MPE) cannot be exceeded. Enclosed high power laser systems, with an integrated automatic shutdown system on opening of the enclosure, are also included in this laser class.
- **Class 1M:**
  - As for class 1, except when magnifying optics such as microscopes and telescopes are used: safety limits may be exceeded and class 3 dangers may be possible.
- **Class 2:**
  - Visible laser light (400–700 nm) with <1 mW continuous wave (CW) and/or <0.25 s exposure time (with an energy limit according to the standard) is considered to be safe. Radiation either side of the 400–700 nm range is considered to be class 1.
- **Class 2M:**
  - As for class 2, except when magnifying optics such as microscopes and telescopes are used.
- **Class 3R:**
  - If handled carefully, the laser is considered safe because only a low risk of injury exists. Visible CW lasers in Class 3R are limited to 5 mW. For other wavelengths and for pulsed lasers, other limits apply.
- **Class 3B:**
  - Direct exposure is hazardous for the eye, but diffuse reflections such as from paper are not harmful. The limits apply to wavelengths and to operation mode (as for CW and pulsed lasers). Laser safety goggles are absolutely required when a direct view of the laser beam is at all possible. Class 3B lasers must be equipped with an isolating key switch and a safety interlock.
- **Class 4:**
  - Every type of laser beyond class 3B.