

SCHOOL OF VISUAL PHILOSOPHY

SAFETY IN THE BLACKSMITH SHOP



INSTRUCTED
BY YORI SEEGER

CLOTHING



Safety in the shop is very important, and begins with how we dress. Never wear clothing that can melt. Synthetics like polyester will melt to your skin and can cause severe injury. I recommend cotton, wool and

leather. Our shop will provide students with leather aprons, safety glasses and gloves. Pants, shoes and shirts are up to you. Please wear close toed shoes, jeans and both a long and short sleeve cotton shirt. I strictly enforce safety glasses. It's up to you if you wear gloves or not. My recommendation is to wear a glove on your tong hand and not on your hammering hand. However, anytime that you choose not to wear a glove the chances of getting burned increase. When we strike hot metal, paper thin slag pops off the stock material. Although it cools quickly I have the scars to prove that it can still give you a bunch of little burns.

FORGING TEMPERATURE IS FROM 1700 TO 2000F



- Metal that is cold and metal up that is hot enough to burn you sometimes look the same. Always assume that metal in the blacksmith shop is too hot to pickup with your bare hands.
- Know where the exits are.
- Know where the fire extinguishers are.
- Wear proper clothing-Safety Glasses, gloves, close toed shoes, cotton, pants, long sleeve shirt, and an apron.
- Blisters and little burns are par for the course. Injuries and big burns are not.
- Understand where your work area is and do not walk through another student's zone. You just might get branded with hot metal.
- know how to turn off the forge and propane incase of an emergency