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HOME & GARDEN

THE BEST WORK GLOVES OF 2024

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1



BEST OVERALL
Carhartt Grain Leather Work Glove with Safety Cuff

[Check Price at Amazon](#)

These top our list because they balance dexterity and protection. We're pleased with how

2



BEST FOR COLD WEATHER
Youngstown Glove Waterproof Winter Plus Performance Glove

[Check Price at Amazon](#)

When it comes to frigid conditions, these gloves blew everything out of the ice water. They also

3



Stanley S7311 Select Shoulder Leather Palm Glove

[Check Price at Amazon](#)

Stanley is a storied company that makes pretty good work gloves. These sport the same

4



Mechanix Wear Original Gloves

[Check Price at Amazon](#)

While these are very light and flexible, they offer only mild protection against sharp objects

5



Wells Lamont Premium Leather Work Gloves

[Check Price at Amazon](#)

Their Gunn Cut design gives them a classy look, and we like how supple the leather is. However,

they held up, but it's the flexibility that put them over the top. [Read More](#)

Pros

- + Superior flexibility
- + Durable enough to withstand knife cuts
- + Pads protect fingertips, palm, wrist, and knuckles

Cons

- Don't protect well against wet, freezing temps

protected hands well, resisting sharp objects and rope constrictions. [Read More](#)

Pros

- + Water- and wind-proof
- + Protects against sharp objects
- + Stands up to freezing temperatures

Cons

- Stiff, thick material reduces dexterity

design as the Carharts that took top spot, but with much rougher, and less flexible, cow hide. [Read More](#)

Pros

- + Decent insulation in cold temperatures
- + Pads protect the palms, wrist, and fingertips

Cons

- Rough cowhide material
- Reduce dexterity

and reverberation. However, for light handyman tasks, they work like a charm. [Read More](#)

Pros

- + Breathable
- + Allows for a large range of motion and dexterity

Cons

- Offered only mild protection against sharp objects

the sleek design means the only extra padding is a thin strip of leather on the palm. [Read More](#)

Pros

- + Felt broken in right out of the box
- + Sleek design

Cons

- Only extra padding is a thin strip on the palm

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[Learn more about our product testing](#)



Written by **Jonathan Chan**, senior manager of lab operations with a decade of experience testing products.

Updated April 15, 2024

It's time to get to work. There are nails that need hammering, **boards that need sawing**, and snow that needs shoveling. You don't need praise or incentives to knuckle down, but you would like a little protection. You know that if you actually work your hands to the bone, you won't be able to come back tomorrow and get even more done.

Not to worry, we put some of the best-selling work gloves through their paces in our testing labs to see which ones will save your digits. We judged each set of gloves based on **protection they provided, dexterity, and ease of use.**

After being cut with knives, choked with rope, and drowned in ice water, we think the **Carhartt A518 (available at Amazon)** will do the best job for most people. These heavy-duty safety gloves had the padding in all the right places and will let you work in comfort.



BEST OVERALL

Carhartt A518

The Carhartt A518 leather work gloves topped our list because they balanced dexterity and protection. High-quality double-stitched-sewn-grain-leather pads cover the fingertips, palm, part of the wrist and the knuckles. To test durability, we slashed at these areas with a knife made of 154CM steel, and aside from the very ends of the fingertips, we were pleased with how these gloves held up. However, it's the flexibility that puts them over the top. We opened a pocket knife, turned small dials, and typed this sentence while wearing these gloves.

While we liked the durability and flexibility, we found the A518's to be just adequate when it comes to insulation. When we subjected these gloves to wet, freezing temperatures, the inside of the glove went from a toasty 89°F to 60°F in under five minutes.

Issues aside, our testing showed us that the Carhartt A518s are the best abrasion-resistant gloves for general work such as shoveling, light construction, and moving heavy objects.

Pros

- + Superior flexibility
- + Durable enough to withstand knife cuts
- + Pads protect fingertips, palm, wrist, and knuckles

Cons

- Don't protect well against wet, freezing temps

[Buy now at Amazon](#)

\$19.96 from Walmart



BEST FOR COLD WEATHER

Youngstown Winter Proof Plus

When it comes to working in frigid conditions, the Youngstown Winter Proof Plus gloves blew everything out of the ice water. We exposed these gloves to freezing conditions and found them to be water and windproof. These winter gloves are not impervious to cold, but, anyone who has worked in the snow knows that it's the dampness that saps your hands of all their strength. The Youngstown also protected our hands well, resisting sharp objects and rope constrictions.

The reason we didn't award these gloves the top spot was due to their stiffness. The thickness in the material allows for only a gripping motion. You can hold onto a shovel, a hammer, or a chainsaw, but that's about all. We could barely pick up a screw that we dropped, much less place it in the right spot and turn a driver. These gloves perform at their best in the dead of winter, dealing with work that requires no finesse.

Pros

- + Water- and wind-proof
- + Protects against sharp objects
- + Stands up to freezing temperatures

Cons

- Stiff, thick material reduces dexterity

Buy now at Amazon

\$33.13 from Walmart

How We Tested Work Gloves



You should research work gloves like any other tool in your kit.

Tester

I'm Jon Chan, and I am the Senior Product Technician here at Reviewed. Throughout the day, I install, move, and test large appliances like washers and fridges, so a good pair of work gloves are essential to my day-to-day. When it came time to test work gloves, I wanted to balance durability and dexterity because if you can't work in work gloves, that kind of defeats the point.

The Tests

Our testing focused on three major categories: **protection**, **dexterity**, and **ease of use**.



Part of the testing includes constricting a length of rope around each glove.

The ideal glove should provide protection against the elements, sharp objects, impact shock, and constriction. To simulate cold and damp weather, we used a bucket of ice water. We measured conditions inside the glove, both at room temperature and submerged into the bucket, using **remote thermocouples**.

After the gloves dried off, we considered the break-in period over and moved onto the sharp objects test. We *very carefully* gripped a blade made of **154CM steel** and poked at the fingertips. There are niche gloves that are made to protect against cuts, however, we feel that all gloves should provide some defense against sharp objects. The shock and constriction tests involved hitting stuff with a hammer and wrapping a rope around our hands and pulling.



A good work glove should protect you from accidental contact with sharp objects.

Finally, we did dexterity tests. For quantitative numbers, we pitted our ability to twirl a pen in our fingers ungloved versus gloved. The more revolutions we could complete, the better. We also judged how difficult it was to do normal tasks like turning a screw, adjusting dials, and writing.

What You Should Know About Work Gloves

Why Wear Work Gloves?

You've only got one set of hands and you should protect them. We're not going to tell you what to do, but it's worth mentioning that, in 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 143,000 hand-related injuries were reported in the workplace—a statistic that doesn't cover hand injuries that happened at work but weren't reported or any of the work that folks like you and I do to keep their homes, vehicles, and backyards working as they should. This reported 143,000 injuries meant that, in 2015, hand injuries came in second place to the reported number of incidents of back injuries (191,450) sustained by Americans while they were on the job.

Everyone knows to lift with their knees to protect their backs. Your hands should be shown the same respect.

What Gloves Are Best for Which Situation?

- **Cuts:** The best cut-resistant gloves are made from Ultra-high-molecular-weight polyethylene (UHMWPE, UHMW). Lightweight and flexible, these types of gloves do not typically protect from shock or puncture.
- **Bruising and blistering:** Look for quality leather to prevent bruising and blistering. A quality pair of work gloves will have an extra layer sewn over the knuckles and over the palm.
- **Water and chemicals:** In this situation, latex and nitrile gloves will work the best. You want a nonreactive barrier that's also **disposable**.
- **Extreme temperatures:** The gloves that protect against extreme hot and cold tend to be very thick. The added bulk provides more insulation.

Other Gloves We Tested



Stanley S7311

Stanley is a storied company that makes a pretty good pair of work gloves. The S7311 model carries the same design elements as the Carhartts that took the top spot. They have the same sewn leather placements over the palms, wrist, and fingertips, however they are of a lower quality. Where the A518's use a nice grain leather, these Stanley gloves use a much rougher cowhide. We found during testing that the S7311 were pretty good at insulation, but did not give us the dexterity that we were looking for.

Pros

- + Decent insulation in cold temperatures
- + Pads protect the palms, wrist, and fingertips

Cons

- Rough cowhide material
- Reduce dexterity

\$9.99 from Amazon

\$18.82 from Walmart

**Mechanix MG-05-010**

Coming in fourth place, the Mechanix MG-05-010 gave us a healthy range of motion and they breathed well. We moved through the lab with these gloves on and were able to go through all our tests without any hindrance. We were even able to use our smart phones and laptop with the MG's on.

While these gloves are very light and flexible, they offered only mild protection against sharp objects and reverberation. However, for light handyman work, they work like a charm, slipping on with ease.

Pros

- + Breathable
- + Allows for a large range of motion and dexterity

Cons

- Offered only mild protection against sharp objects

\$21.99 from Amazon

\$27.66 from Walmart



Wells Larmont 1209L

Hailing from Ethiopia, the Wells Larmont 1209L landed in the middle of the pack. The 1209 gloves uses a Gunn Cut design which gives them a classy look. However, this sleek design does mean that the only extra padding is a thin strip of leather found on the palm.

During testing, we appreciated how supple the leather was right out of the box. Normally, leather gloves require a breaking-in period to get soft, so the 1209 gets a lot of points there. Where the Carhartt and Stanley gloves outscored the Wells Larmonts were in their stiff cloth cuffs. Not only do the cuffs add an extra two inches of protection, but they provide an easy opening to slip the glove and off.

Pros

- + Felt broken in right out of the box
- + Sleek design

Cons

- Only extra padding is a thin strip on the palm

[Buy now at Amazon](#)



Firm Grip 5510

The Firm Grip 5510 combines nitrile and cloth to create a tight-fitting and flexible glove. Retailing for around \$3 a pair, we'd consider For the price, we'd consider these Firm Grips to be semi-disposable, which is great for any business that goes through a lot of regular disposable latex or vinyl gloves. During testing, we found the 5510s to be waterproof from one side, so we think they'd be great for people in the seafood business.

Pros

- + Long, elastic cuffs keep dirt out

+ Breathable polyester backing

Cons

- Large, loose, and bulky fingers
- Not sturdy enough for heavy-duty garden work

Buy now at Amazon

\$14.71 from Walmart



Parva Garden Rose Gloves

The Parva Garden Gloves are the strangest pair on our list. They are elbow length, have kevlar stitching, and are made of 40 percent leather. They are touted as being thorn proof. We'd agree with that assessment, but only for thorns in bushes and on flowers. We read quite a few user reviews that state these gloves couldn't stand up to the thorns on tree branches and cacti.

Pros

+ Thorn-proof against bushes and flowers

Cons

- Don't stand up to thorns on tree branches or cacti

Buy now at Amazon



NoCry Cut Resistant Gloves

NoCry are cut-resistant gloves for use in the kitchen. These gloves served their primary purpose well. We gave the NoCry gloves a few good slashes and they held up. Wearing them, we found ourselves feeling confident and safe while chopping. Not padded enough for outdoor use, but if you're worried about knife safety, the NoCry gloves are well worth checking out.

Pros

+ Held up to knife cuts

Cons

— Not padded enough for outdoor use

[Buy now at Amazon](#)

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