

# Your Skin on Cement

## Irritation, Burns, and Dermatitis

### Concrete Burns

#### CAUSE

Your skin's exposure to the drying chemicals in cement production.

#### 66%

of Texas cases involving missed days of work from wet cement were from chemical burns

#### EFFECT

Untreated skin is subject to:

- Blistering
- Swelling
- Bleeding

#### The HYGROSCOPY PROCESS

In order to harden, cement draws water away from anything that has moisture, such as wet clothing, skin, or tools.



1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns can form, requiring a drastic response, such as skin grafts or even amputation.

#### 4X

as many days are lost to skin problems when compared to other construction trades

#### 5

is the median number of work days missed

### Treatment

If cement makes contact with your skin, you can:



Wash Hands



Change Out of Wet Gear



Wash Everywhere  
(Burns take hours to form)



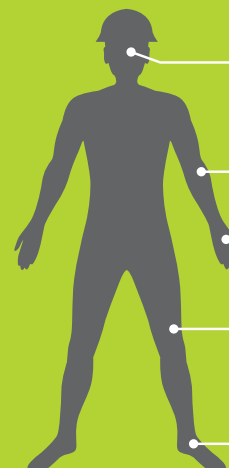
Apply a Weak Acid  
(Like Vinegar)

## Seek Immediate Medical Attention Right Away!

Multiple periods of prolonged exposure can lead to a long term sensitivity to the chemicals in cement called **Allergic Contact Dermatitis**

### Prevention

OSHA recommends that workers who handle cement should wear proper PPE



Safety Eyewear

Long Sleeve Shirt

Liquid/Chemical Resistant Gloves

Coveralls or Pants

Rubber Boots