

Method	Safeguarding Action	Advantages	Limitations
Fixed	Provides a barrier.	Can be constructed to suit many specific applications. In-facility construction is often possible. Can provide maximum protection. Usually requires minimum maintenance. Can be suitable to high production, repetitive operations.	May interfere with visibility. Can be limited to specific operations. Machine adjustment and repair often require its removal, thereby necessitating other means of protection for maintenance personnel.
Interlocked	Shuts off or disengages power and prevents starting of a machine when guard is open; should require the machine to be stopped before the worker can reach into the danger area.	Can provide maximum protection. Allows access to machine for removing jams without time-consuming removal of fixed guards.	Requires careful adjustment and maintenance. May be easy to disengage.
Adjustable	Provides a barrier that may be adjusted to facilitate a variety of production operations.	Can be constructed to suit many specific applications. Can be adjusted to admit varying sizes of material.	Hands may enter danger area. Protection may not be complete at all times. May require frequent maintenance and/or adjustment. The guard may be made ineffective by the operator. May interfere with visibility.
Self-adjusting	Provides a barrier that moves according to the size of the material entering.	Off-the-shelf guards are often commercially available.	Does not always provide maximum protection. May interfere with visibility. May require frequent maintenance and adjustment.