

Bump Caps

A bump cap has a hard shell yet is often thinner than a traditional hard hat. Bump caps typically do not have a suspension system and are not required to conform to the same specifications of ANSI, EN, CSA or other global hard hat standards. A bump cap may be as simple in design as a stand-alone plastic shell that looks like a “mini-hard hat”.

Bump caps have become available that feature protective shells that protect workers while keeping comfort and wear-ability issues in mind. These shells are then paired with a fabric cover (simply stated: a hat) designed to work in tandem with the shell to create a product that not only protects workers but one that they feel good wearing.

The bump cap can come in the mini-hardhat for format or the “baseball cap” look. Caps may come in multiple brim lengths, from a traditional baseball style brim to a short “micro-brim” for very tight spaces.



Where can Bump Caps be Used?

The use of bump caps is limited to areas where there is no potential for injury to the head from electrical contact or from falling or moving objects, but where a hazard may exist due to striking one's head against fixed, low-clearance objects. One rule of thumb is that hardhats are for high-impact protection such as a tool dropped from above while bump caps are for low-impact protection such as when a worker brushes their head on a low-hanging obstruction. Another useful definition of when to use a hard hat and when to use a bump cap is:

Object Striking Head = hard hat
Head striking object = bump cap