

MSA 10034090

MSA V-Gard 500 Cap Style Safety Hard Hat Instruction Manual

Model: 10034090 | Brand: MSA

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper use, adjustment, and maintenance of your MSA V-Gard 500 Cap Style Safety Hard Hat. Designed for superior head protection, this hard hat features a polyethylene shell and Fas-Trac III Ratchet Suspension. Adherence to these instructions is crucial for ensuring the hard hat performs as intended and provides the highest level of safety.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION AND STANDARDS

The MSA V-Gard 500 Protective Cap is engineered to meet or exceed applicable requirements for a Type I (top impact) helmet. It complies with:

- **ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2014** (Non-Vented Class E)
- **CSA Z94.1-2015** (Non-Vented Class E)

These caps have been fully third-party tested and certified by SEI. Always inspect your hard hat before each use for any signs of damage, cracks, or wear. Replace immediately if any damage is found.



Image: Overview of shock, impact, and penetration testing standards for various MSA hard hats, including Type I and Type II industrial ratings, and EN standards.

3. COMPONENTS AND FEATURES

The V-Gard 500 hard hat is constructed with several key features for user protection and comfort:

- **High-Density Polyethylene Shell:** Provides robust protection against impacts.
- **Fas-Trac III Ratchet Suspension:** An advanced suspension system designed for improved comfort, airflow, and a secure, customized fit.
- **Glaregard Surface Underbrim:** Helps to reduce reflective glare, improving visibility in various lighting conditions.
- **Extended Rain Trough:** Designed to protect the wearer in wet environments by diverting rain.
- **Slotted Design:** Allows for easy integration with a wide range of MSA accessories, such as sun shades, shields, liners, and lamps.



Image: A yellow MSA V-Gard 500 Cap Style Safety Hard Hat with its Fas-Trac III ratchet suspension visible.

4. SETUP AND ADJUSTMENT

Proper fit is essential for the hard hat to provide maximum protection. Follow these steps to ensure a correct and comfortable fit:

1. Determine Your Hat Size:

- Wrap a tape measure or string over your natural hat position around your head.
- Mark the position where the end of the tape overlaps.
- Match the measurement in inches or centimeters to the size chart below.

2. Adjusting the Fas-Trac III Suspension:

- The Fas-Trac III suspension features a graspable ratchet with ultra-smooth rotation for easy adjustment.
- Turn the ratchet knob at the back of the hard hat to tighten or loosen the suspension until it fits snugly but

comfortably on your head.

- Ensure the flush rear lug attachments are positioned correctly to eliminate pressure points.
- Utilize the three levels of nape strap adjustment to achieve a fully customized fit, ensuring the comfort pad is contoured to the back of your head for improved airflow and to prevent hair-pulling.



Image: A guide on how to measure head size for a hard hat, along with a size chart indicating Standard, Small, and Large sizes with corresponding inch ranges.

5. OPERATING AND USAGE

Once properly fitted, the V-Gard 500 hard hat is ready for use in environments requiring head protection. Always ensure the hard hat is worn correctly, with the brim facing forward, unless specific job requirements dictate otherwise (e.g., reverse donning, if approved by local regulations and manufacturer guidelines).

Accessory Integration: The slotted design allows for easy attachment of MSA-approved accessories. Refer to the specific accessory's instruction manual for proper installation and use. Ensure all accessories are securely attached and do not compromise the hard hat's protective capabilities.

6. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and effectiveness of your hard hat:

- **Cleaning:** Clean the hard hat shell and suspension with mild soap and warm water. Avoid harsh chemicals, solvents, or abrasive cleaners, as these can degrade the material and reduce protection. Rinse thoroughly and air dry.
- **Inspection:** Before each use, visually inspect the hard hat for any signs of damage, including cracks, dents, gouges, discoloration, or brittleness of the shell. Check the suspension system for frayed straps, broken stitching, or damaged components.
- **Storage:** Store the hard hat in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and chemicals. Do not store heavy objects on top of the hard hat.
- **Replacement:** Hard hats have a limited service life. Even if no visible damage is present, materials can degrade over time. Follow manufacturer guidelines for replacement intervals, typically every 2-5 years from the manufacturing date, or immediately after any significant impact.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your V-Gard 500 hard hat, consider the following:

- **Uncomfortable Fit:** Re-adjust the Fas-Trac III ratchet suspension. Ensure the nape strap is set to one of the three levels that best suits your head shape. Verify your head size against the size chart.
- **Hard Hat Feels Loose or Too Tight:** Fine-tune the ratchet mechanism. If the hard hat is consistently too loose or tight, ensure you have the correct size (Standard, Small, Large).
- **Hard Hat Slipping:** Ensure the suspension is tightened appropriately. Check if the comfort pad is correctly positioned at the back of your head.
- **Visible Damage:** Any visible damage to the shell or suspension requires immediate replacement of the hard hat. Do not attempt to repair damaged components.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature | Detail |
|--------------------|--|
| Model Number | 10034090 |
| Brand | MSA Safety |
| Shell Material | High-Density Polyethylene |
| Suspension Type | Fas-Trac III Ratchet Suspension (4-Point, Non-Vented) |
| Color | Yellow |
| Size | Standard (also available in Small, Large) |
| Product Dimensions | 29.21 x 23.16 x 14.33 cm |
| Item Weight | 362.87 grams |
| Safety Standards | ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2014 (Type I, Class E), CSA Z94.1-2015 (Type I, Class E) |

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed warranty information and customer support, please refer to the official MSA Safety website or contact MSA

customer service directly. This manual does not contain specific warranty terms or support contact details, as these may vary by region and product. Always purchase genuine MSA replacement parts and accessories to maintain product integrity and warranty.

Manufacturer: MSA Safety