

# How To Dress Like a Welder

Everyone has their own style, how you choose to dress outside of work is cool. However, when you're new and fresh out of school, it's best to blend in as much as possible. The clothing suggestions below are to help you look the part when you show up.

**Hard Hat:** Should be a ball cap style, not full brim. Either buy a flip band or buy (2) One to keep mounted to your welding hood and one to wear around the plant. The MSA Skull Guard or Fibre Metal rough neck are great options. Any other type of hard hat might make you look like an electrician or even worse a scaffold builder and we don't want that.



**Wrangler Pearl Snap Button Up:** These are very reasonably priced, usually less than \$30.00. Color doesn't matter and they have been the go-to welding shirt for years. If you want to look extra fly on the job, western welding outfitters have some overpriced shirts that look and perform nice. Most places don't require FR so don't worry about that; regular cotton will work.



**Jeans:** This doesn't matter too much, just wear cotton denim jeans. Avoid fashionable jeans, avoid skinny jeans, avoid overly baggy jeans. Tractor supply sells reasonably priced Levi jeans that are perfect or even some russler jeans from wal-mart are great. Ariat makes some nice work jeans if looking fly is your style, any cheap cotton denim will get the job done.



**Boots:** Either pull on cowboy style boots or a good pair of Thorogood's or redwings. We understand that boots are a big investment but as a welder you really want to avoid rocking a pair of timberland pros or a hard toe tennis shoe etc.. While they may be comfortable and you may like them, it will make you kind of stick out because for whatever reason welders don't really wear those. We personally recommend slip on boots because sparks will burn up the laces.



**Welding Cap:** Welding caps are pretty important. You want to wear one that fits well and doesn't make you look like a cone head. Great places to buy welding caps are from, pipe liners cloud, welding caps by lori, welder nation and most tool room ladies on your first job. The local welding supply and gas stations sell the ones that make you look like a cone head.



If you follow the advice provided, you will surely set yourself up for success. Looking the part on the job is a big part of success right out the gate.

Pro tip: Don't wear your brand-new western welding shirt to the first day of your first job. Wear the one with holes all burnt in the sleeve. Also, take that shinney new hard hat and rub it around in the dirt a little bit before you show up to weld test.