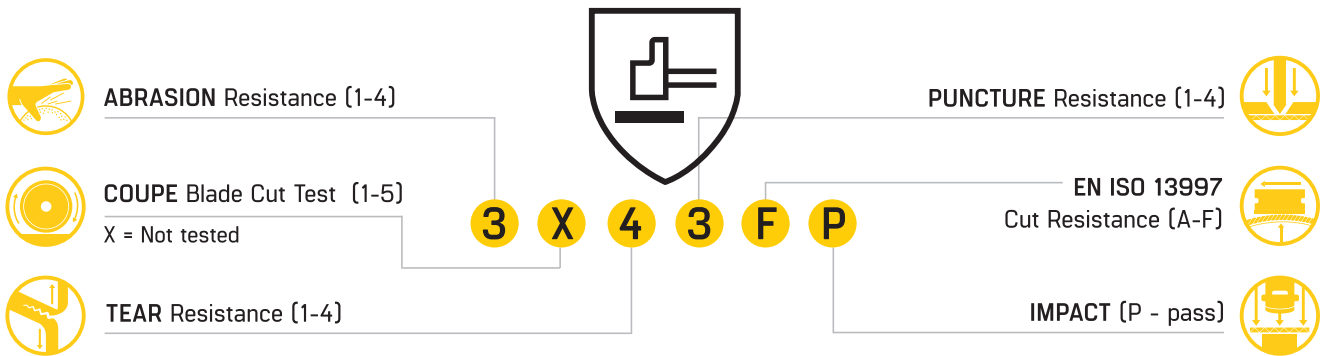


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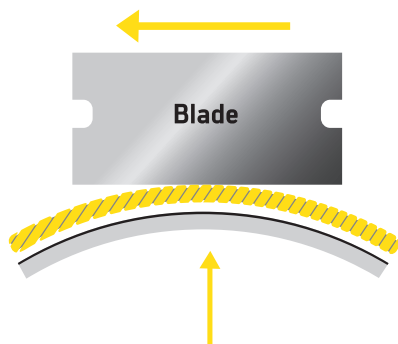
If you work in manufacturing, glass handling, metal fabrication, automotive, logistics or construction, chances are you've seen glove markings like 4X43F printed next to the EN388 shield icon. But what do those numbers and letters actually mean?

In this guide, we'll break down every part of the EN388 mechanical protection standard, with a special focus on cut resistance and the ISO 13997 test method.

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EN ISO 13997 Cut Resistance (A-F)



Variable force (N) applied from below

A	>2 Newtons	- Low cut hazards
B	>5 Newtons	- Light handling tasks
C	>10 Newtons	- General industrial handling
D	>15 Newtons	- Medium to high cut hazards
E	>22 Newtons	- High cut risk applications
F	>30 Newtons	- Extreme cut hazards

Abrasion Resistance (1-4)

Level 1	>100	NUMBER OF RUBS
Level 2	>500	
Level 3	>2000	
Level 4	>8000	

Tear Resistance (1-4)

Level 1	>10	NEWTONS TO TEAR
Level 2	>25	
Level 3	>50	
Level 4	>75	

Puncture Resistance (1-4)

Level 1	>20	NEWTONS TO PUNCTURE
Level 2	>60	
Level 3	>100	
Level 4	>150	