

Respiratory Protection

Introduction

Respiratory protection prevents inhalation of harmful dusts, fumes, and vapors. Different jobs require different respirators, and proper fit is critical for protection.

Hazards & Controls

Dust and silica : The employer must assess exposure and specify dust controls and any required respirator. An N95 is not automatically adequate for every silica task or exposure.

Vapors and gases : Use only the respirator and cartridges selected under the employer's respiratory-protection program. Air-purifying respirators are not suitable for oxygen-deficient or unknown atmospheres.

Required respirator use : Obtain medical clearance before fit testing and use. Tight-fitting respirators require fit testing before initial use and at least annually, plus a user seal check every time they are put on.

Safety Reminders

Do not allow facial hair or other interference at a tight-fitting face seal. A user seal check does not replace a fit test.

Change gas/vapor cartridges according to the approved change schedule or end-of-service-life indicator, not breathing resistance or smell. Leave the exposure area if leakage, breakthrough, or breathing difficulty occurs.

Clean, inspect, and store respirators as the manufacturer and site program require. Ask the program administrator whenever protection is uncertain.

Engagement Questions

When should respirator cartridges be replaced?

How do you check for a proper seal?

Sources and use notice

[OSHA: Respiratory protection](#)

[OSHA: Cartridge change schedules](#)

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Meeting Record & Sign-In

Respiratory Protection

Company: _____ Date: _____

Jobsite: _____ Presenter: _____

Time / duration: _____ Crew / shift: _____

Site-specific hazards and controls discussed

	Printed name	Signature
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Follow-up action / responsible person / due date

Signatures record participation only. They do not establish competency, certify compliance, or waive rights. Retain completed sheets under company policy. Print additional copies for larger crews.