

TOOLBOX TOPICS

AIR PURIFYING RESPIRATORS

Respiratory protection is often a necessary safety device when performing certain tasks on the job. Tasks which may require a worker to wear Air Purifying Respirators or cartridge respirators include spray painting, sand blasting, work with hazardous chemicals, or work in extremely dusty areas.

Before an Air Purifying Respirator (APR) can be worn by a worker, you must complete a medical questionnaire to determine your health status. In addition, you must be trained in the proper use, maintenance, and care of the respirator and you must be fit tested for the type of respirator you will be expected to wear.

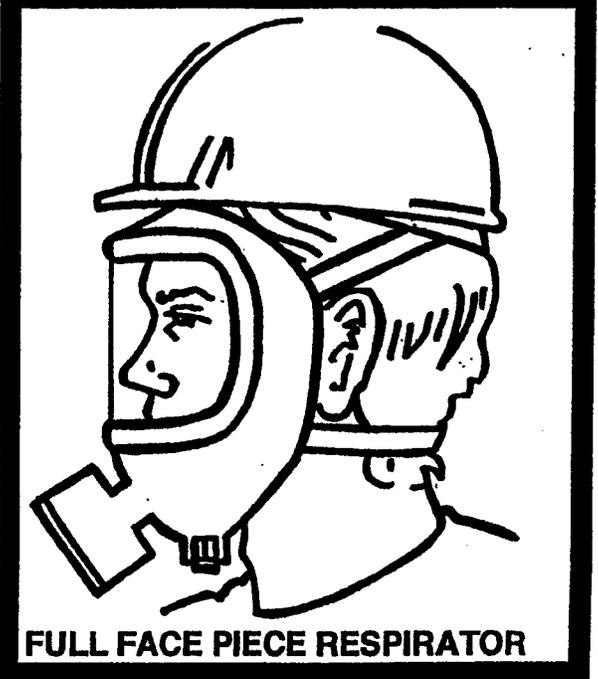
Respirators cannot be worn by individuals who have facial hair that prevents a proper seal between the respirator and the face.

An APR should be stored in a plastic resealable bag or container in an area away from harmful chemicals or direct sunlight. In addition, store it so nothing will be placed on top of the respirator that can damage it. Respirators should never be stored in a toolbox. Before putting on a respirator inspect it to detect any cracks, corrosion, or other deformities. When finished working with a respirator clean it using an alcohol wipe or similar device and return it to its storage container.

A respirator protection Program must be in effect to protect employees who use respirators. Respirators are only designed to be a barrier between you and harmful contaminants that may enter your lungs. Taking good care of your respirator may save your life.



HALF MASK RESPIRATOR



FULL FACE PIECE RESPIRATOR