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Reusable Respirators

- What are the hazards I am working with?
- How can the hazards affect me?
- How can 3M help?
- Which 3M respirator and filters should I use?
- How should I fit my 3M respirator?
- How long should I wear my 3M respirator?
- How should I maintain my 3M respirator?



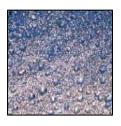
What are the hazards I am working with?

Dusts



The level of hazard depends upon the particle

Mists



Size

Or metal fumes



Concentration

Type

It is sometimes very difficult to see some particles as they are so small.



What are the hazards I am working with?

Gases



Vapours



Substances similar to air in their ability to diffuse or spread freely throughout a container or area

The gaseous state of substances which are either liquids or solids at room temperature. Formed when solids or liquids evaporate

For Gas & Vapours – Ask

- What is the type of Gas/Vapour?
 Is it ORGANIC, INORGANIC, ACID GAS, or AMMONIA (or a combination of two or more)?
 The appropriate filters to use in your 3M respirator will be colour coded by category as above
- 2. What is the concentration of the Gas/Vapour?
- 3. Does it have good warning properties? (Can I smell or taste it?)



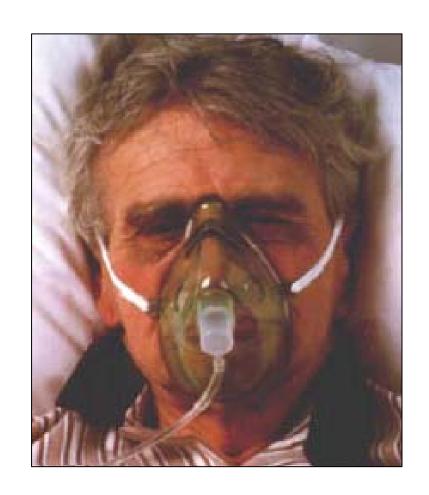
How can the hazards affect me?

The effects of exposure to some gases and vapours can be:-

Acute - (immediate) or

Chronic - (longer term)

Likely to effect vital organs such as the brain, liver and kidneys.





How can 3M help?

We suggest that the following **3M Maintenance-free respirators** may be suitable to protect you while you work:-



3M 4251 Organic Vapour/Dust Respirator



3M 4279
Organic Vapour/ Inorganic
and Acid Gas/Ammonia/Dust
Respirator



How can 3M help?

We suggest that the following **3M Reusable respirators** may be suitable to protect you while you work:-



3M 6000 Series Low Maintenance Half Masks



3M 7500 Series Fully Maintainable Half Masks



Which 3M respirator/filters should I use?

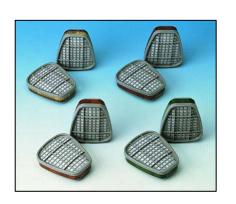
Filters are fitted to 3M 6000 Series – Classic Comfort Half-masks and 3M 7500 Series – Premium Comfort.

The appropriate filter to use depends on the hazard(s) in the work environment:-

Particulate filters



Gas/vapour filters



Combination filters





Which 3M respirator/filters should I use?

Gas/Vapour Filters

are colour coded according to the type of gas/vapour they should be used for:-

Organic

Inorganic

Acid Gas

Ammonia



Which 3M respirator/filters should I use?

Typical Activities involving Gases and Vapours

Painting (not 'two pack')

Roof felting

Timber treatment

Piling

Adhesives/Sealants

Brick treatments

Earth moving

Underpinning

Road surfacing



3M 4251 Organic Vapour/Dust Respirator



How do I fit my 3M respirator?

- 1. Refer to the appropriate datasheet for fitting instructions
- 2. Train your employees in how to don and doff their respirator
- 3. Ask your employees to demonstrate that they know how to fit their respirator properly
- 4. Before each shift employees should conduct a face fit check. Please note that a face fit test should also have been conducted.



If your respirator doesn't fit properly, it can't protect you properly!

Speak to your supervisor if yours doesn't fit you properly.

How long should I wear my 3M respirator?

3M Maintenance-Free Respirators

Should be worn either

- until "breakthrough" occurs (i.e. safe levels of hazard can be smelt, tasted etc)
- Or for up to one month, whichever occurs first
- Or if breathing resistance becomes difficult (i.e. breathing against a clogged filter)



Where a respirator is disposed of before one month, no maintenance records (other than a visual check) are required to be made or kept.



How long should I wear my 3M respirator?

3M Reusable Half-mask Respirators

- fitted with gas/vapour filters should be changed when 'breakthrough' * occurs (i.e. safe levels of hazard can be smelt, tasted etc).
- fitted with particulate filters should be changed when breathing resistance becomes difficult (i.e. breathing against a clogged filter)
- fitted with combination filters should be changed on 'breakthrough' * or clogging, whichever occurs first
- * Although detection of 'breakthrough' is advised as the method for knowing when to change a gas/vapour filter, where possible, it should not be routinely relied on.



How should I maintain my 3M respirator?

- Good practice to clean facepiece daily with antiseptic wipe
- Visual checks before and after use any tears, cracks or distortions should be reported and dealt with
- 3M facepieces are subject to maintenance requirements of COSHH and records of maintenance must be kept.
 Damaged parts should be replaced as required

