

Respirator Protection

This list provided by The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – it must be modified to meet your individual requirements.

NOTE: This check list should be used if respirators are required to protect individuals from exposure to air contaminants above applicable limits. This checklist does not deal with respirators for immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) atmospheres, for agricultural use, or for emergency escape.

- ☐ Have engineering controls been employed, where possible, to prevent or reduce atmospheric contamination? [29 CFR 1910.134(a)(1)] NOTE: Measures may include enclosure or confinement of an operation, general and local ventilation, and substitution of less toxic materials.
- ☐ Is there a written respiratory protection program? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include procedures for selecting respirators for use in the workplace? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(i)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include medical evaluations of individuals who will wear respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(ii)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include fit testing procedures for tight-fitting respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(iii)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include procedures for proper use of respirators in routine as well as reasonably foreseeable emergency situations? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(iv)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include procedures and schedules for cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding, and otherwise maintaining respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(v)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include procedures to ensure adequate air quality, quantity, and flow of breathing air for atmosphere- supplying respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(vi)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include training of individuals in the proper use of respirators, including putting on and removing them, limitations of use, and their maintenance? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(viii)]
- ☐ Does the written respiratory protection program include procedures for regularly evaluating the effectiveness of the program? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(1)(ix)]
- ☐ Has a program administrator been designated who is qualified by appropriate training and experience to administer or oversee the respiratory protection program and conduct the required evaluations of program effectiveness? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(3)]
- ☐ Are respirators, training, and medical evaluations provided at no cost to individuals? [29 CFR 1910.134(c)(4)]
- ☐ Are respirators selected on the basis of the anticipated hazards? [29 CFR 1910.134(d)(1)(i)]
- ☐ Are all respirators NIOSH certified? [29 CFR 1910.134(d)(1)(ii)]
- ☐ Has a potential respiratory hazard(s) been identified and evaluated? [29 CFR 1910.134(d)(1)(iii)]
NOTE: This evaluation shall include a reasonable estimate of a person's exposure to respiratory hazard(s) and an identification of the contaminant's chemical state and physical form. Although personal air monitoring is the most reliable and accurate method to determine exposure, it is not required.
- ☐ Are medical evaluations performed, before a respirator is used in the workplace, to determine an individual's ability to use a respirator? [29 CFR 1910.134(e)(1)] NOTE: The employer may discontinue medical evaluations when the individual is no longer required to use a respirator. Consult 29 CFR 1910.134(e) for required medical evaluation procedures.
- ☐ Has an appropriate qualitative fit test or quantitative fit test been conducted on individuals who are using tight-fitting respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(f)(1)] NOTE: A record of the fit test should be maintained to document compliance.

- ☐ Was the fit test conducted prior to the initial use of the respirator, whenever a different facepiece (size, style, model or make) is used, and at least annually thereafter? [29 CFR 1910.134(f)(2)]
- ☐ Is the wearing of tight-fitting respirator facepieces prohibited whenever any condition that interferes with the face-to-facepiece seal or valve function is present? [29 CFR 1910.134(g)(1)(i)] NOTE: Facial hair that comes between the sealing surface of the facepiece and the face or that interferes with valve function is prohibited.
- ☐ Are corrective glasses or goggles or other personal protective equipment worn so as not to interfere with the seal of the facepiece to the face of the user? [29 CFR 1910.134(g)(1)(ii)]
- ☐ Is a user seal check performed by the employee each time a tight fitting respirator is put on? [29 CFR 1920.134(g)(1)(iii)] NOTE: User seal checks include positive and negative pressure checks to identify potential leakage around the facepiece.
- ☐ Do individuals leave the respirator use area to wash their faces and facepieces as necessary, to replace filter, cartridge, or canister elements, or if they detect vapor or gas breakthrough, changes in breathing resistance, or facepiece leakage? [29 CFR 1910.134(g)(2)(ii)]
- ☐ Are respirators which are issued for the exclusive use of an individual cleaned and disinfected as often as necessary to be maintained in a sanitary condition? [29 CFR 1910.134(h)(1)(i)]
- ☐ Are respirators which are issued to more than one individual cleaned and disinfected before being worn by different individuals? [29 CFR 1910.134(h)(1)(ii)]
- ☐ Are respirators stored so as to be protected from damage, contamination, dust, sunlight, extreme temperatures, excessive moisture or damaging chemicals? [29 CFR 1910.134(h)(2)(i)]
- ☐ Are respirators which are used routinely inspected before each use and during cleaning? [29 CFR 1910.134(h)(3)(1)(A)]
- ☐ Are respirators that fail an inspection or are otherwise found to be defective removed from service and either discarded or repaired? [29 CFR 1910.134(h)(4)]
- ☐ Are filters, cartridges and canisters labeled and color-coded with the NIOSH approval label? [29 CFR 1910.134(j)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on why the respirator is necessary and its proper use, fit, and maintenance? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(i)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on the capabilities and limitations of the respirator? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(ii)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on how to use the respirator in emergency situations? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(iii)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on how to inspect, put on and remove, use, and check the seals of the respirator? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(iv)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on procedures for maintenance and storage of the respirator? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(v)]
- ☐ Has training been provided to individuals who wear respirators on how to recognize medical signs and symptoms that may limit or prevent the effective use of respirators? [29 CFR 1910.134(k)(1)(vi)]
- ☐ Are workplace evaluations conducted to ensure that the written respiratory protection program is being properly implemented? [29 CFR 1910.134(l)]
- ☐ Are records maintained for 30 years regarding medical evaluations, fit testing, and the respirator program? [29 CFR 1910.134(m)]

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