





What are the types of respirators available?

Various types of respirators are available, but it is important that the right respirator is selected for the type of hazards that are present in the workplace.




Air-Purifying Respirators

Air-Purifying Respirators clean the air before the worker breathes it in. Please note, APR's WILL NOT supply clean air and is not to be used in an oxygen deficient environment.

Air-Purifying Respirator Type	Diagram	Description
N-95 Respirator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Purifying Respirator • Entire face piece acts as a filter medium • Have 2 straps (one sits at the crown of the head and the other below the ear) • No replacement parts exist • Mask should be disposed at the end of service life • Only provides protection against particulates <p style="text-align: center;">** DUST MASKS ARE NOT THE SAME AS N95's</p>
Non-Powered Half-Face Respirator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Purifying Respirator • Comprised of either silicone, thermoplastic or rubber face piece • During inhalation: Air is pulled one-way through the filter or cartridge where the contaminants become trapped • During exhalation: A one-way valve opens and allows air to leave
Non-Powered Full-Face Respirator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Purifying Respirator • Comprised of either silicone, thermoplastic or rubber face piece alongside a clear lens • Covers the user's entire face from their hairline to chin • Different cartridges or filters can be attached onto the respirator • Good against contaminants that cause eye irritation • Higher degree of protection than half-face respirators
Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Purifying Respirator • Makes use of a battery powered blower to continuously draw air through the filter or cartridge • Offers a higher degree of protection against contaminants than non-powered respirators • Can be worn with some facial hair and glasses

Air-Supplying Respirators

Air-Supplying Respirators supplies clean air to worker through an airline from air tank or air compressor.

Air-Supplying Respirator Type	Diagram	Description
Supplied-Air (Airline) Respirator		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air-supplying respirator• Supplies user with clean air through a hose called an airline• A NIOSH-approved airline is attached to a source of clean, respirator air
Combination Supplied-Air (Airline) Respirator with Auxiliary Self-Contained Air Supply		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air-supplying respirator• Combines a supplied-air (airline) respirator and a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)• A small auxiliary air cylinder called an escape or egress bottle is worn usually attached to a belt and plumbed into worker's airline system• If supplied air fails or worker needs to disconnect, the bottle will supply clean air for 5-20 minutes to allow worker to escape hazardous area
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air-supplying respirator• Provides air from a cylinder that is carried by the worker• Can be used in Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) conditions• Limitations include limited air supply and added weight for worker to carry