



SAFETY BRIEF

RESPIRATORS: PROPER USAGE, STORAGE AND CLEANING

You may be required to wear a respirator if you work with certain hazardous materials or in hazardous situations. Respirators can protect you from these hazards, but only when used properly. If you don't know when to wear your respirator, ask your supervisor, check for signage and/or review the safety data sheet (SDS).

SEAL TEST

Make sure you've been fit tested prior to use. You should conduct a seal test each time you use a respirator.

- Use your hands to cover the areas where air enters the mask
- Inhale slowly for 10 seconds
- Make sure the face piece pull towards your face—air should not leak between your face and the face piece
- Cover areas where air leaks with your hands
- Exhale slowly for 10 seconds; the face piece should budge slightly
- Check again for leaks
- Readjust the straps if air is still leaking and check again for a proper fit

While filtering face masks need to be thrown out after one use, other respirators are reusable and need to be properly stored and cleaned.

CLEANING

- Disassemble the respirator
- Hand-wash the face piece in warm water with a disinfecting soap
- Rinse thoroughly in clean, warm water
- Wipe the respirator with disinfecting wipes or solution
- Clean the inhalation and exhalation valves
- Allow all pieces to air-dry
- Reassemble the mask

STORAGE

- Store in a cool, dry place out of the sunlight
- Avoid storing in areas where the respirator could absorb fumes
- Make sure nothing is resting on top of the respirator
- Remove the cartridge from the respirator and store in a zipper-locked plastic bag



Corporate Office: 717 Mulberry St. | Des Moines, IA 50309 | 800-447-2295 | www.emcins.com | [in](#) [f](#) [@](#) [t](#) [v](#)