

**CLEAN
AIR?
TAKE CARE!**



**Helping you to correctly
select and use respirators**



With support from...



**Damage to your workers' lungs and other parts of
their bodies can seriously affect their health
...it can also affect your business!**



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Don't risk their health & your business...



Many workers...

X Are not provided with correctly selected respirators!



X Are not provided with correctly maintained respirators



X Do not wear their respirators properly



This can lead to exposure to hazardous substances affecting their health ...and putting your business at risk!

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Respiratory disease



Common health problems caused by breathing in hazardous substances...

Cancers

Asthma

COPD (Chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases)

Allergies & sensitisation

Silicosis



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Other diseases



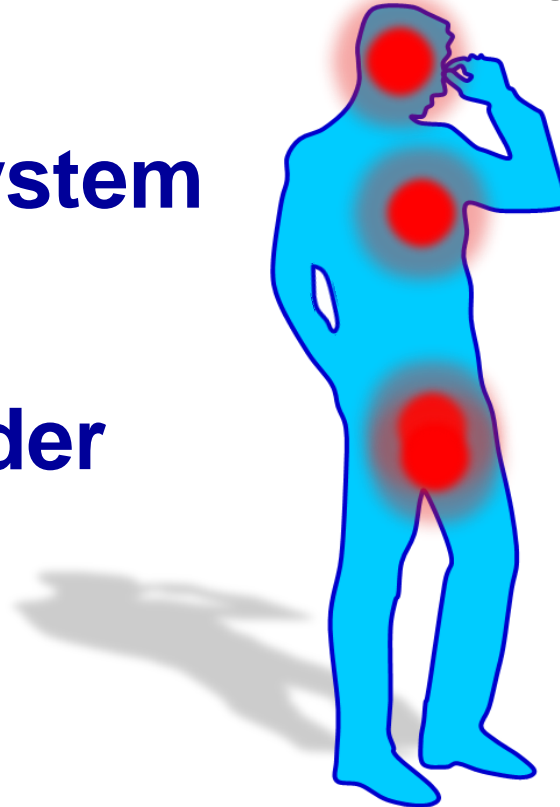
Breathing in hazardous substances can also cause diseases elsewhere in the body...

Nervous system disorders

Bladder cancer

Heart disease

Damage to reproductive system



Don't risk their long term health!

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- An HSE film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxAX-1CENcc>



Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE)



Thousands of employers provide respirators to protect their workers from exposure to a wide range of hazardous substances...



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Respiratory protective equipment

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There are two types of respiratory protective equipment (RPE)...

Respirators



Breathing Apparatus (BA)



For more information about BA
read HSE book: HSG53
(Visit [HSE website](https://www.hse.gov.uk) for more details)

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Respiratory protective equipment



There are two kinds of respirators...

Negative pressure



Powered



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Protection provided by respirators



As long as the filters are correctly selected you may use respirators to protect against...

- | ✓ Particles | ✓ Gases | ✓ Vapours |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| ✓ Dusts | | |
| ✓ Mists | ✓ Fibres | |
| ✓ Fumes | ✓ Germs | |

✗ Respirators provide no protection against Oxygen Deficiency

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Respirators will not protect



Unless they are...

right for the hazard

right for the task

right for the wearer



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Respirators will not protect



Unless they are...

right for the hazard



Dust, fibres
and germs



Mist and spray



Smoke and fume



Gas and vapour

Select the **correct** respirator and filter type for...



Particles



Gases



Vapours



Amount of hazard
in the air

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Respirators will not protect



Unless they are...

right for the task

- ✓ Robust enough
- ✓ Practical to use
- ✓ Works efficiently & protects the worker



Never use filtering respirators in oxygen deficient areas!

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Respirators will not protect



Unless they are...

right for the wearer

- ✓ **Have been fit tested and fit correctly**
- ✓ **Can be used with other safety equipment**
- ✓ **Comfortable enough to keep on**



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Selecting the correct respirator

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You can...



Use the on-line Clean Air-Take Care selection guide available at www.healthyworkinglives.com/rpe-selector



Discuss with a supplier or H&S advisor



Don't forget to consult your workers during the selection process
Make sure they have a say, It is a legal requirement

RPE Selector

Selecting the right Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) for the job

This is the RPE Selector Tool. By answering a few questions about the job, substance, and the wearer, this Tool will help you find the right RPE to protect you and your employees.

RPE used at work must be CE marked to confirm it has been designed to meet at least the minimum requirements laid out in law. However, employers are responsible for selecting the right RPE for their task, substance, work environment and the wearer. By answering a few questions about your work area, the hazardous substance and the task for which RPE is needed, this Tool will help you find the right RPE for your workers.

The Tool was jointly developed by the Health and Safety Executive, NHS Health Scotland and Healthy Working Lives (HWL) based on HSE's RPE guidance HS053.

To move from one step to another click the orange button at the bottom of the page.

Types of Respiratory Protective Equipment

Types of respirator



1. Disposable half mask respirator



2. Reusable half mask respirator



3. Full face mask respirator



4. Fan-powered reusable full-face mask respirator



5. Fan-powered respirator with reusable hood, helmet or visor

Types of Breathing Apparatus (BA)



6. Unpowered fresh air hose breathing apparatus (FAHBA) with full face mask



7. Compressed airline breathing apparatus (CABA) with half mask



8. CABA or powered FAHBA with full face mask



9. CABA or powered FAHBA with hood, helmet or visor



10. Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or CABA with a demand valve full-face mask

- These are the types of RPE most commonly used at work
- The RPE you use may look slightly different depending on the manufacturer

Do you need more help?

Call the Healthy Working Lives advice line free on

0800 0192211

Begin your
assessment

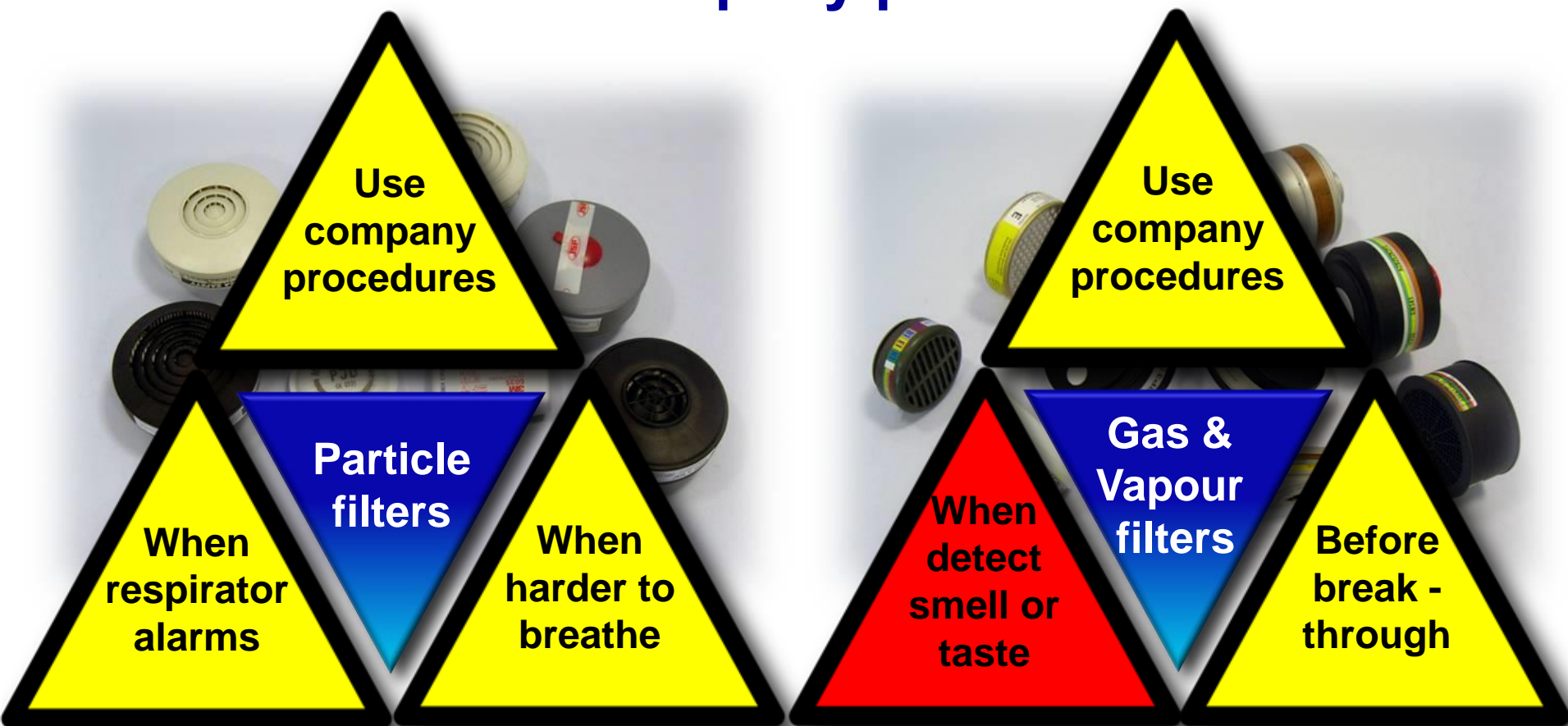


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What else should I do?

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Provide filter change guidance...
Establish company procedures...



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What else should I do?

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Fit the respirator properly

- ✓ Ensure each wearer has the right size of respirator
- ✓ Ensure all wearers of tight fitting respirators are fit tested
- ✓ Remember to use a competent fit tester



Make sure respirator is worn correctly and fit checked before each use

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What else should I do?



Clean and store the respirator correctly

- ✓ Reusable respirators should be cleaned after each use
- ✓ Respirators should be stored in a clean, dry environment
- ✗ **Don't let the respirator get dirty inside**
- ✓ Follow the manufacturer's instructions



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What else should I do?



Maintain non-disposable respirators

- ✓ Carry out thorough maintenance at least once a month
- ✓ Follow manufacturer's maintenance instructions
- ✓ Maintained by a trained person
- ✓ Keep maintenance records
- ✗ Never modify any part of the respirator



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What else should I do?



Train your workers



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Remember



WARNING

Enforcement actions have been taken
by HSE for incorrect selection, use
and maintenance of respirators

**PROHIBITION
NOTICE**

**IMPROVEMENT
NOTICE**

PROSECUTION

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Don't take a gamble...

A respirator won't protect you unless...



- ✓ You use the right mask
- ✓ You use the right filters

A respirator won't protect you unless...



- ✓ You have been trained to use it
- ✓ You fit it properly

A respirator won't protect you unless...



- ✓ You replace filters when required
- ✓ You store & clean it properly

A respirator won't protect you unless...



- ✓ It's maintained properly

It's your responsibility, look after your workers!

Summary

**CLEAN
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It's your responsibility, **look after your workers!**

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Campaign support...

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***Any information given in this presentation is for guidance only.
It is ultimately the responsibility of the employer to select
appropriate RPE based on risk assessment.***

For further information please visit the following websites:

www.hse.gov.uk

www.bsif.co.uk

www.fit2fit.org