



Respiratory protection must be worn whenever you are working in a hazardous atmosphere. The appropriate respirator will depend on the contaminant(s) to which you are exposed, and the assigned protection factor (APF) required. Required respirators must be NIOSH-approved, and medical evaluation, training, and fit testing must occur before use.

These

Respirator Type	Example	Description	APF
Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide breathing air independent of the environment. • Are to be used when the contaminant has insufficient odor, taste, or irritating warning properties or when the contaminant is of such high concentration or toxicity that an air-purifying respirator is not adequate. • While this offers the greatest degree of protection, it is also the most complex; training and practice in its use and maintenance are essential, and it is only for use in emergency situations and oxygen-deficient or Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) atmospheres. • All work locations where there are atmospheres that are categorized as IDLH require the use of a full-facepiece, positive-pressure, demand SCBA certified by NIOSH for a minimum service life of 30 minutes or a combination full-facepiece, pressure-demand, supplied-air respirator (SAR) with an auxiliary self-contained air supply. 	<p>Half-face mask (demand mode): 10</p> <p>Full-facepiece (demand mode): 50</p> <p>Full-facepiece (pressure-demand): 10,000</p> <p>Helmet/hood (demand mode): 50</p> <p>Helmet/hood (pressure-demand): 10,000</p>
Emergency escape-use breathing apparatus		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-contained, compressed air apparatus for escape from a contaminated environment (e.g., 10-minute escape). 	N/A

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