



SAFETY TALK

The right respirator

Respirators must be matched to particular hazards. There is not an all-purpose respirator.

What's the danger?

Construction involves various airborne hazards such as silica dust, fumes and vapors.

Airborne hazards can make it difficult to breathe or trigger asthma attacks, and in the long-term cause chronic or fatal lung disease.

How to protect yourself

Respirators are the last line of defense against airborne hazards.

There are two basic types of respirators:



Air-purifying respirator



Supplied-air respirator

Air-purifying respirator:

- filters contaminants like dust and fibers out of the air
- does not supply air or oxygen
- must be matched to specific hazards
- specified in safety data sheets for controlled products
- has a limited lifespan based on contaminant levels and filter loads

Supplied-air respirator:

- supplies breathable air from a compressor, cylinder or tank
- offers the best protection against hazards
- Are the only respirators that can be used for confined-space rescue or in dangerous atmospheres

Workers must be adequately trained by a competent person in the proper fit, testing, maintenance, use and cleaning of the equipment.

Print and review this talk with your staff, sign off and file for COR™ / SECOR audit purposes.

Date: _____

Performed by: _____

Concerns:

Employee Name:

Supervisor: _____

Location: _____

Corrective Actions:

Employee Signature:

