

**REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES USING RESPIRATORS  
WHEN NOT REQUIRED UNDER THE STANDARD**

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. To provide an additional level of comfort and protection for workers, respirator use is encouraged, even when exposures are below the limits set by OSHA standards. However, if a respirator is not used properly or kept clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the worker.

If your employer provides respirators for your voluntary use or if you provide your own respirator, you need to take certain precautions to be sure that the respirator itself does not present a hazard.

The following precautions are recommended:

1. Read and heed all instructions provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning and care and all warnings regarding the respirator's limitations.
2. Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of concern. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (NIOSH) certifies respirators. A label or statement of certification on the respirator or its packaging will tell you what the respirator is designed for and how much it will protect you.
3. Do not wear your respirator in atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator is not designed. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
4. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use one that belongs to someone else.

I have read and understand this information.

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Employee Signature

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Printed Name

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Date