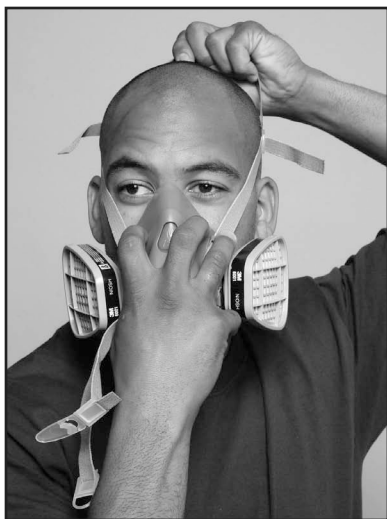


Follow the step-by-step instructions below to learn how to properly perform a qualitative fit test.

Qualitative Fit Test

A fit test is a method of ensuring that a certain respirator model and size fits an employee so that it provides adequate protection from contaminants.



Step 1:

The worker must be shown how to put on, adjust and fit the respirator. (The worker must also be given in-depth respirator training, which should cover such things as the contaminants, limitations of the respirators, etc.)



Step 2:

The worker must put on the respirator five minutes before the test.



Step 3:

Have the worker fit check the respirator. See www.gemplers.com/tech/resp-fitcheck.htm



Step 4:

Perform a sensitivity test with a diluted solution of the testing agent to see how long it takes the worker to detect the agent. Apply the test agent according to the manufacturer's instructions. (Make sure you use the appropriate filter or cartridge for the test agent you are using. Check the manufacturer's instructions, or call your safety supplier.)



Step 5:

While applying the test agent, have your employee perform a variety of exercises according to the manufacturer's instructions. Most manufacturers recommend that deep breathing, moving the head and talking be performed for one minute each.

If your employees have facial hair, facial deformities or are missing dentures, they may be unable to pass a fit test. These employees can wear a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) because it does not require a tight seal around the face. These respirators have a loose-fitting hood or helmet and push air through the filters via a motor.

Need More Information?

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Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. CST, Monday-Friday