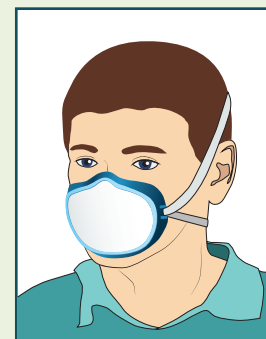
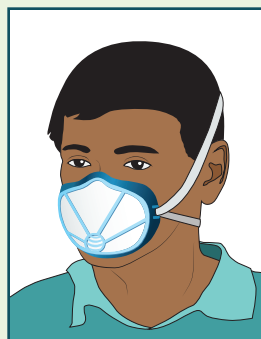


# Understanding Your Elastomeric Respirator

September 2023

## Elastomeric Quarter Facepiece Respirator

- Covers your nose and mouth, and seals between your chin and lower lip
- Assigned Protection Factor (APF) = 5
- Can have an exhalation valve or no valve
- Protects against particles, gases, or vapors when equipped with the proper filter or cartridge\*



EHMR with an exhalation valve



EHMR with no exhalation valve



EHMR with an exhalation valve filter

## Elastomeric Half Mask Respirator (EHMR)

- Covers your nose and mouth, and seals under your chin
- APF = 10
- Available in multiple sizes to fit a diverse user population
- **EHMR with an exhalation valve**
  - Your inhaled breath enters through the filter or cartridge material and your **unfiltered** exhaled breath exits through the exhalation valve
  - Exhalation valve increases comfort by reducing breathing resistance, removing moisture, and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations inside the respirator
  - Protects against particles, gases, or vapors when equipped with the proper filter or cartridge
- **EHMR with no exhalation valve**
  - Your inhaled breath enters through the filter material and your exhaled breath exits through the same filter
  - Protects against particles **only**
  - **Cannot** be used with gas or vapor cartridges
- **EHMR with an exhalation valve filter**
  - Your inhaled breath enters through the filter material and your exhaled breath is filtered after it passes through the exhalation valve
  - Protects against particles, gases, or vapors when equipped with the proper filter or cartridge\*

## Elastomeric Full Facepiece Respirator

- Covers your whole face, from roughly the hairline to below the chin, and provides eye protection
- APF = 50<sup>†</sup>
- Available in multiple sizes to fit a diverse user population
- Has an exhalation valve
- Your inhaled breath enters through the filter or cartridge material and your unfiltered exhaled breath exits through the exhalation valve
- Protects against particles, gases, or vapors when equipped with the proper filter, cartridge, or canister



All illustrations by NIOSH

\*Currently, no NIOSH Approved® respirators of this kind are approved for use with gas or vapor cartridges.

<sup>†</sup>An APF of 50 can only be achieved if the respirator is quantitatively fit tested. If the respirator is qualitatively fit tested, it will have an APF of 10.

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