

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Respiratory Protection
(1910.134)

	O.K.	Action Needed
Permissible Practice		
1. Is engineering control feasibility considered before assigning personnel respirators?		
2. Has a respiratory protection standard been established that is consistent with the current regulation?		
3. Have work-site specific procedures been established?		
4. Have the procedure been updated to reflect current practices?		
5. Does the written program contain the following:		
a. Procedures for selecting respirators?		
b. Medical evaluations of employees required to use respirators?		
c. Fit testing procedures for tight-fitting respirators?		
d. Procedures for proper use of respirators in routine and foreseeable emergencies?		
e. Procedures and schedules for cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding, and otherwise maintaining respirators?		
f. Procedures for ensuring adequate air quality, quantity, and flow of breathing air for supplied air respirators?		
g. Training of employees on respiratory hazards?		
h. Training of employees in the proper use of respirators, including putting them on and removing them, any limitations on their use, and their maintenance?		
i. Procedures for regularly reevaluating the RPP effectiveness?		
Voluntary Respirator Use		
1. Are employees using respirators so as to not create a hazard?		
2. Have all voluntary users been supplied with Appendix D of the Standard?		
3. Have the medical fitness of all voluntary users of respirators been established?		
4. Have all voluntary users been trained to clean, use, and maintain the respirator, so that the respirator does not create a hazard?		
Administration		
1. Has a program administrator been designated in writing?		
2. Are all training, equipment, and evaluations provided at no cost to the employee?		

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General Requirements		
1. Are respirators selected on the basis of an anticipated hazard?		
2. Are all respirators used in compliance with the appropriate NIOSH certification?		
3. Are a sufficient number of respirators sizes and models offered so that all employees are comfortable and protected?		
Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) Atmospheres		
1. Are all respirators for use in IDLH environments are the respirators:		
a. A full-faced SCBA with at least a thirty-minute (30) service life, or		
b. A service-demand SAR with an auxiliary self-contained air supply?		
2. Are escape respirators from IDLH environments NIOSH certified?		
Non-IDLH Environments		
1. Are respirators:		
a. Selected on the basis of the physical and chemical form of the containment?		
2. Are respirators used to protect against gases and vapors:		
a. Atmosphere-supplying respirator, or		
b. An air purifying respirator with a NIOSH-certified End-of-Service Life Indicator (ESLI) for the contaminant, or		
c. There is a change schedule for respirators based on objective data that ensures air cleaning devices are changed before the end of their service life?		
3. Are respirators selected for protection against particulates that:		
a. An air supplied respirators, or		
b. A HEPA-filter cartridge, or		
c. A NIOSH-certified particle-filtering respirator?		
Medical Evaluations		
1. Are all users of respirators provided with a medical evaluation before fit-testing or being required to use a respirator in the workplace?		
2. Has a licensed health care provider been selected to perform medical evaluations?		
3. Is the provider using an appropriate (OSHA-specified in Appendix C or equivalent) questionnaire to evaluate the fitness of the respirator wearer?		
4. Are follow-up evaluations provided to employees that respond affirmatively to any questions 1-8 of the OSHA questionnaire?		

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5. Are all recommendations followed for follow-up evaluations prior to allowing the respirator user to wear a respirator?		
6. Is the following information given to the provider before the medical evaluation?		
a. The type and weight of the respirator to be worn?		
b. The duration and frequency of the respirator use?		
c. The expected physical work and effort?		
d. Additional protective clothing and equipment to be worn?		
e. Temperature and humidity extremes that may be encountered?		
f. Any other pertinent supplemental information?		
7. Has the health care provider been provided with a copy of the written program and a copy of the Standard?		
Medical Determination		
1. Has a written determination been obtained for each required respirator use?		
2. Does the written determination include the following:		
a. Limitations on wearing the respirator?		
b. The need, if any for followup medical evaluations?		
c. A statement that the provider has given a copy of the written recommendations to the employee?		
3. If the provider determines that a negative pressure respirator is a danger to the wearer, has a PAPR been offered to the wearer, if warranted?		
4. Are medical followups given if:		
a. An employee reports that medical signs or symptoms that are related to the use of the respirator?		
b. The provider, supervisor, or administrator determines that the respirator wearer has to be reevaluated?		
c. A change occurs in the work place that warrants a need for employee reevaluation?		
Fit Testing		
1. Are all required uses of tight-fitting respirators fit tested with the appropriate respirator prior to the first use of the respirator?		
2. Is the respirator used in the fit test the same make and model and size of the respirator to be worn?		

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3. Is fit-testing required when:		
a. Prior to initial use?		
b. When a different respirator (type, make, size, model) is necessary?		
c. Changes occur in the employee that could affect the fit of the respirator?		
d. When notified by the employee that the fit of the respirator is unacceptable?		
4. Is all fit-testing given under an OSHA QLFT or QNFT protocol?		
5. For negative pressure air-purifying respirators that must achieve a fit factor of 100 or less are QLFT used?		
6. Are QLFT or QNFT fit tests conducted on tight-fitting atmosphere-supplying respirators and tight-fitting powered air-purifying respirators in the negative pressure mode or using a surrogate facepiece?		
Use of Respirators		
1. Has a procedure been established and implemented for the proper use of respirators.		
2. Does the procedure include:		
a) prohibiting conditions that may result in facepiece seal leakage?		
b) preventing employees from removing respirators in hazardous environments?		
c) taking actions to ensure continued respirator effectiveness throughout the workshift?		
d) use of respirators in IDLH atmospheres?		
e) interior structural firefighting situations?		
3. Are employee's prohibited from wearing a tight-fighting facepiece respirator if they have facial hair that comes between the sealing surface of the facepiece or interferes with valve function?		
4. Are employee's prohibited from wearing a tight-fighting facepiece respirator if they have a condition that interferes with the face-to-face seal or valve function?		
5. Does the employer ensure that glasses or goggles or other PPE is worn in a manner so it does not interfere with the seal of the facepiece?		
6. Does the employer ensure that a user seal check is performed each time the employee puts on the respirator?		
7. Does the employer maintain surveillance on work area conditions and degree of employee exposure or stress that may affect respirator effectiveness?		

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8. Is respirator effectiveness re-evaluated when changes occur in the work area, employee exposure or stress?		
9. Does the employer ensure that employee's leave the work area:		
a) to wash face and respirator to prevent eye or skin irritation?		
b) if employee detects vapor or gas breakthrough, resistance or leakage of the facepiece?		
c) replace the respirator or the filter, cartridge or canister elements?		
10. Does the employer replace or repair the respirator before allowing the employee to return to the work area?		
IDLH Atmospheres		
1. In IDLH atmospheres is at least one employee located outside of the IDLH atmosphere?		
2. In IDLH atmospheres is visual, voice or signal line communication maintained between the employee(s) inside and outside of the IDLH atmosphere?		
3. Is the employee located outside of the IDLH atmosphere trained to provide effective emergency rescue?		
4. Is the employer or designee notified before an employee enters an IDLH atmosphere in order to provide emergency rescue?		
5. Once notified, does the employee or designee provide appropriate assistance to the situation?		
6. Are employee's located outside of the IDLH atmosphere equipped with:		
a) Pressure demand or other positive pressure SCBA's, or a pressure demand or other positive pressure supplied air respirator with auxiliary SCBA?		
b) and appropriate retrieval equipment or equivalent means of rescue?		
7. For interior structural fire fighting does the employer ensure:		
a) that at least 2 employee's enter the IDLH atmosphere and that they maintain visual or voice contact with one another at all times?		
b) that 2 employee's are located outside the IDLH atmosphere?		
c) that all employee's engaged in interior structural firefighting use SCBA's?		
Maintenance and Care of Respirators		
1. Are clean, sanitary and good working order respirators provided to employee's?		
2. Does the employer ensure that respirators are cleaned and disinfected?		

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3. Are respirators cleaned and disinfected at the following intervals:		
a) exclusive one user respirators - as often as necessary to maintain good hygiene?		
b) more then one user - before being worn?		
c) emergency use - after each use?		
d) respirator used in fit testing & training - after each use?		
4. Are respirators stored to protect them from damage, contamination, dust, sunlight, extreme temperatures, excessive moisture and damaging chemicals?		
5. Are respirators stored in a manner to prevent deformation of the facepiece and exhalation valve?		
6. Are emergency respirators kept accessible to the work area?		
7. Are the containers or compartments for storing emergency use respirators marked as containing emergency respirators?		
8. Are emergency respirators stored according to applicable manufacturers instructions?		
9. Does the employer ensure that respirators are inspected as follows:		
a) routine respirators are inspected before each use and during cleaning?		
b) emergency use respirators are inspected at least monthly and inspected for proper function before and after each use?		
c) emergency escape only respirators are inspected before being carried into the workplace for use?		
10. Does the respirator inspection include:		
a) a check of respirator function, tightness of connections and the condition of the various parts including, but not limited to the facepiece, head straps, valves, connecting tube?		
b) cartridges, canisters or filters?		
c) elastomeric parts for pliability and signs of deterioration?		
11. Are SCBA's inspected monthly?		
12. Are air and oxygen cylinders maintained in a fully charged state and recharged when the pressure falls to 90% of mnfcers. recommended level?		
13. Does the employer ensure that the regulator and warning devices on SCBA's are functioning properly?		
14. Are emergency use only respirators certified by the employer by documenting date of inspection, person performing the inspection, findings, required remedial action and serial number or unique identifier?		

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15. Is the documentation of emergency respirator inspections maintained as a tag or label attached to the storage container, kept with the respirator or stored as paper or electronic files?		
16. Is the documentation of emergency respirator inspections maintained until replaced by subsequent inspections?		
17. Are respirators that fail inspection removed from service and discarded or repaired?		
18. If respirators are repaired, are they repaired by appropriately trained personnel and use only the manufacturer's NIOSH approved parts designed for the respirator using manufacturer's recommendations and specifications?		
19. Are reducing and admission valves, regulators and alarms adjusted or repaired only by the manufacturer or a technician trained by the manufacturer?		
20. Does the employer ensure that compressed and liquid oxygen meet the US Pharmacopoeia requirements for medical or breathing air?		
21. Does the employer ensure the compressed breathing air meet at least the requirements of Type 1-Grade D breathing air?		
22. Are cylinders of compressed air:		
a) tested and maintained as prescribed in the shipping container regulations(49 CFR 173 and 178)?		
b) obtained with a certificate of analysis from the supplier?		
c) at least Type 1-Grade D and have a moisture content that does not exceed the dew point of -50F at 1 atm?		
23. Are compressors used to supply breathing air to respirators constructed and situated to:		
a) prevent entry of contaminated air into the air-supply system?		
b) minimize moisture content?		
c) have suitable in-line air-purifying sorbent beds and filters to further ensure breathing air quality that are maintained, replaced or refurbished?		
d) have a tag containing the most recent change date and the signature of the person authorized by the employer to perform the change?		
24. For compressors that are not oil lubricated, is the CO levels in the breathing air kept below 10 ppm?		
25. For oil-lubricating compressors, is a high-temperature or CO alarm or both used to monitor CO levels?		
26. Are breathing air couplings incompatible with outlets for nonrespirable worksite air or gas systems?		

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27. Are breathing gas containers marked in accordance with NIOSH respirator certification standard, 42 CFR part 84?		
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Identification of Filters, cartridges and canisters		
1. Are all cartridges, filters and canisters labeled and color coded with the NIOSH approval label?		
2. Are all labels maintained and legible?		
Training and Information		
1. Does the employer provide respirator training that is comprehensive, understandable and recur annually or more often as needed?		
2. Does the employer provide information on respirators as outlined in Appendix D to employees who wear respirators when not required?		
3. Does the employer ensure that employee's can demonstrate knowledge of: why the respirator is necessary, limitations and capabilities, emergency use procedures, malfunctioning procedures, inspection, user seal checks, maintenance and storage procedures, how to recognize medical signs and symptoms, general requirements of the respirator standard?		
4. Is respirator training required prior to an employee using a respirator?		
5. Is training conducted:		
a) annually?		
b) when worksite changes obsolete previous training?		
c) when inadequacies in the employee's knowledge or use of the respirator are apparent?		
d) when any other situation arises in which retraining appears necessary to ensure safe respirator use?		
6. Is appendix D provided either orally or written to employee's who wear a respirator but are not required to wear a respirator?		
Program Evaluation		
1. Does the employer conducted evaluations of the workplace to determine if the written program is being effectively implemented?		
2. Does the employer consult with employees to determine if there are any inadequacies in the program?		
3. Does the employer assess at least respirator fit, respirator selection based on hazard and proper respirator use under the workplace conditions the employee encounters and proper respirator maintenance?		

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Recordkeeping

1. Are written records maintained of the medical evaluation?		
2. Are respirator fit test records maintained?		
3. Does the fit test records contain: name of employee tested; specific make, model, style, size of respirator; type of fit test; date of test; pass/fail results?		
4. Are fit test records maintained until the next fit test?		
5. Is a written copy of the current respirator program retained by the employer?		
6. Are all documents required to be maintained available upon request to affected employees and to the OSHA?		