

Workplace Safety

Video: What You Need to Know About Respirator Fit Tests

Don Sears | Jan 30, 2019

Video Highlights

There are many respirators, masks, models and makes to choose from—and a host of standards to follow.

Understand the role medical checkups play before fit testing.

A respirator needs to be custom-fit to the face—and there are two major types of testing that can alternatively be performed to make sure the fit protects against all potential lung-damaging vapors, gases and breathable chemicals.

If you work in any situation where dangerous vapors, fumes, sand or other dangerous chemicals can be inhaled into the lungs and bloodstream, you probably need to use a respirator.

Which one? Well that all depends on the environmental conditions you work in. But more importantly, your company needs to make sure you are examined by a medical professional to document that it is safe for you to work in that environment. Then, they need to test the fit of the correctly rated respirator for that environment—and make sure that absolutely none of the dangerous stuff can be inhaled by you—the worker. Find out the intricacies of fit testing here in this video.

Take note: Designated safety managers should have their plant's air tested to make sure they understand their respirator needs. MSC Safety Specialist's recommend using the services of a certified industrial hygienist to conduct air tests.

See respirator solutions at [MSCdirect.com](https://www.mscdirect.com).

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