

How to Use a Gas Mask

A gas mask can be a very useful piece of safety equipment. It can determine life or death in different situations. There is many different style of [gas mask](#) used for many different applications but there is a simple set of instructions that apply to most all gas masks. A gas mask can help preserve good health and be a lifesaver if used correctly. If not used correctly the mask can also give a false sense of safety and not do what it is intended to do. I will give you a few things to looking when using a gas mask.

Full-Face Air-Purifying Respirator

A step up from the half-mask respirator, the full-face mask not only protects the nose and mouth, but the eyes as well. The air-purifying respirator comes with a clear face mask and eye pieces that protect the user's eyes. The potential problem with the full-face masks is that they may not always be effective since they can be a poor fit, or may leak.

Instructions

1. The first thing you should do is chose the right gas mask for the application. The [gas mask](#) is only half of that safety system. The other half is the air filter cartridge, which should be selected in accordance to the potential hazard. There are also cartridges that will work under most all potential hazards. Always look for the rating of the cartridge before you chose to use it. Make sure it will work for the application.

2. The second thing you should do is get the right size gas mask. The fit of the gas mask is very important. If the mask does not fit your face it might not work properly. It might allow gasses to get past the sides of the mask and harm you. An easy way to fit the [gas mask](#) is to push the mask against your face and chin where it feels tight and cover the air inlet area. If you cannot inhale any air that means there is a tight fit and it will work properly. Make sure it fits correctly

3. The third thing you should do is install the cartridges and put the mask on your face.

Keep in mind the mask itself will do no good you must install the cartridges that will filter the harmful gasses from the air. Putting the mask on your face also take some trial. The mask must be tight against your face and the straps that hold it in place must be secure with equal amount of tension on both straps. For people with facial hair you should remove all facial hair to assure a tight seal. If there is facial hair obstructing the seal against your face the mask might not work correctly. Make sure it is tight.