

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) Awareness Training



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This Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) Awareness Training course shows you how to keep yourself and your team safe from workplace respiratory hazards. You'll learn why RPE is important and how to check, wear, clean, dry and store your equipment correctly. The course also covers how to spot damaged, contaminated or modified RPE, so you know exactly when it's time to take it out of use.

This training is suitable for anyone who's required to wear filtering respirator RPE as part of their role, across industries including construction, fabrication, healthcare, asbestos removal and agriculture. It's designed for those wearing RPE, arranging or supervising RPE use and anyone who is self-employed and managing this on their own. By the end, you'll know how to keep your RPE working effectively every time it's needed.

Module 1: The Damage You Can't See

This module explains why RPE is essential and where it sits alongside other ways of controlling respiratory hazards. You'll learn to understand the different hazards you often can't see or feel, the different types of RPE available and know who's responsible for what, whether you're wearing RPE, arranging it for a team or managing it yourself if you're self-employed.

- What are you breathing in?
- Which hazardous substances have you encountered in your own work?
- The hierarchy of control
- Why RPE sits at the bottom
- How RPE protects you
- What are filtering respirators?
- What's disposable FFP?
- What are reusable respirators?
- What are powered respirators?
- Who's responsible for what?
- What if there's no one to support you?

Module 2: How To Use Your RPE Safely

This module guides you through using and maintaining RPE correctly. You'll learn how to carry out pre-use checks, and how to dry and store your mask. It also covers the importance of face-fit testing and how to spot signs that your mask is damaged or modified.

- Why face-fit tests are important
- What makes a face-fit test valid?
- What filter do you need?
- Why conduct a pre-use check?
- How to check a mask's seal
- What else should you look for?
- Why you should never modify your equipment
- What if you find an issue with your RPE?
- What's a thorough inspection?
- How often should inspections happen?
- How to use your disposable FFP and reusable masks
- How long should you wear your disposable FFP or reusable masks?
- How to clean and dry your masks
- How to store your masks
- Your responsibilities

Aims of the training

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the importance of RPE and how it protects from workplace respiratory hazards.
- Identify your own face-fit tested mask and explain how to correctly don, wear and doff it.
- Recognise when RPE is damaged, contaminated or otherwise unfit for use.
- Outline how to clean, dry and store RPE correctly.
- Explain how to carry out a pre-use check of your RPE.