



Don't Choke On These 5 Common Respiratory Protection Mistakes

1

MISTAKE: Misinterpreting required vs. voluntary

If exposure exists, and other precautions (such as eliminating) are unfeasible, you must implement all Respiratory Protection Program (RPP) elements.



2

MISTAKE: Not starting with the Hazard

Understand the nature and magnitude of exposure to respiratory hazards first – this is key to selecting protection equipment.



3

MISTAKE: Using the wrong respirator and cartridges

Select the right tool for the job! Match the respirator to the contaminant's chemical state & form. Or, consider it immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH).



4

MISTAKE: Missing the required program elements

What are the elements to include? Respirator selection, Medical clearance, Fit testing, Procedures, Training, Periodic program evaluation.



5

MISTAKE: Practicing improper maintenance

Inspect respirator regularly for cleanliness and check it's in proper working order.

Your checklist should include:

- Respirator cleaned regularly
- Exhalation valve in working order
- Cartridges are appropriate and current
- Sealed fit & positive/negative pressure
- Stored properly - bag, box & secure

