
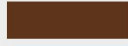
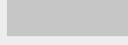





SELECTING FILTERS FOR HALF AND FULL FACE MASKS

Filters for half and full face masks protect against various forms of hazardous substance, including particulates and gas / vapours. Both half masks and full face masks are tight-fitting RPE and require face fit testing upon selection and regularly thereafter – see page 19 for more information on fit testing and which methods are applicable to each type of mask. Selection of the correct filters is essential to ensure protection is provided to the wearer. A full risk assessment must be completed to determine the correct protection factor and filter type – this section gives general guidance on the appropriate filters for various hazardous substances.

FILTER TYPES

Respiratory filters are colour-coded and marked with letters to show the type of protection provided.

TYPE	COLOUR CODE	DESCRIPTION
A		Organic vapours and gases with boiling points >65°C
AX		Organic vapours and gases with boiling points ≤65°C
B		Inorganic gases excluding carbon monoxide
E		Sulphur dioxide and acidic gases
K		Ammonia and organic ammonia derivatives
P		Solid & liquid hazardous & radioactive particles





FULL FACE MASK & FILTER USE SELECTION CHART

	Silica	Concrete & Stone Cutting	Plaster	Welding (Ferrous & lead)	Woods Hard & Soft	MDF (Machine Tooling)	Asbestos Removal	Fibres & Fibre Glass	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	Contaminated Earth Moving, Demolition	Fuel Processing	Resins	Water-based paint	Brush painting – Solvent-based	Spray painting – Solvent-based	Manual Prep	Powered Prep	Chemical Paint Stripping	Heat Paint Stripping	Coating – powder, PU, acrylic	White Spirit	Chlorine	Glyphosate (Weed Killer)	Brick Acid	Industrial Solvents & Degreasers	Ammonia	Acetone
P2	☐												☑			☑	☑										
P3	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑	☑					☑			☑	☑						☑				
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B	☐													☑								☑					
K	☐																								☑		
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A P3	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑					☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑				
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HALF MASK & FILTER USE SELECTION CHART

	Silica	Concrete & Stone Cutting	Plaster	Welding (Ferrous & lead)	Woods Hard & Soft	MDF (Machine Tooling)	Asbestos Removal	Fibres & Fibre Glass	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	Contaminated Earth Moving, Demolition	Fuel Processing	Resins	Water-based paint	Brush painting – Solvent-based	Spray painting – Solvent-based	Manual Prep	Powered Prep	Chemical Paint Stripping	Heat Paint Stripping	Coating – powder, PU, acrylic	White Spirit	Chlorine	Glyphosate (Weed Killer)	Brick Acid	Industrial Solvents & Degreasers	Ammonia	Acetone	
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☑ Full face mask must be worn for this task

☑ Full face mask & AX filter must be worn for this task

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☑ Full face mask & AX filter must be worn for this task

HALF & FULL FACE RESPIRATORS & FILTERS