



Personal Protective Equipment

3M™ Respirators for Professional Mold Remediators

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This blog article was originally published in September 2017 by 3M. This original article can be viewed here multimedia.3m.com/mws/media/14504910/3m-respirators-for-professional-mold-remediators-technical-data-bulletin.pdf.

As flood waters recede, you may be called to clean up mold growth in homes. Some molds release spores and a musty odor. Molds are known to cause a variety of health effects, especially to those with asthma, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, severe allergies, immune suppression, or other chronic inflammatory lung diseases.

The **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA) has published guidelines including “Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings”. In the EPA document, PPE recommendations based on the size of the clean-up area are provided. When cleaning up moldy areas less than 100 square feet, NIOSH approved N95 filtering facepiece respirators, or half masks with replaceable 100 level particulate filters (N100, R100 or P100) may be used in conjunction with disposable coveralls, gloves and goggles. For areas greater than 100 square feet, full facepiece respirators with 100 level particulate filters may be used. The full facepiece may also be used as part of a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) system. In addition, appropriate gloves, disposable coveralls, full body clothing, head gear, and foot coverings are recommended.

A respirator or particle filter with “nuisance level organic vapor relief”, or an organic vapor cartridge in addition to a particle filter may be used to help filter both spores and musty odors. Gases and vapors associated with disinfectants (e.g. chlorine or ammonia) may warrant the use of an appropriate chemical cartridge in conjunction with the particulate filter. Respirators may help reduce your exposure

to mold spores, but will not eliminate exposure or necessarily prevent adverse reactions.

3M™ Particulate Respirators			3M™ Dual Cartridge Respirator	3M™ Half and Full Facepieces
 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8210	 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8210Plus	 3M™ Aura™ Particulate Respirator 9210+	 3M™ Dual Cartridge Respirator Assembly Organic Vapor/P95 R5211, 52P71 (includes Filter 5P71 and Retainer 501)	 3M™ Half and Full Facepieces, 6000 & 7000 Series; Mold Remediation Respirator Kit 67097, 68097, 69097; Particulate Filters 2091, 2096**, 2097*; Cartridge / Filters: 6001 / 6003 (+ Filter 5P71 and Retainer 501), 60921, 60923
 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8511	 3M™ Aura™ Particulate Respirator 9211+	 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8247*		
 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8577*	 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8246**	 3M™ Particulate Respirator 8576**	<p><i>*Nuisance level organic vapor relief</i> <i>**Nuisance level acid gas (chlorine) relief</i> Nuisance levels are those below the OSHA PEL or other government regulatory levels, whichever is lower.</p>	

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It is very important to read and follow the donning instructions carefully and to conduct a user seal check every time the respirator is put on. A good fit can only be obtained if the face is clean-shaven in the area where the respirator seals against the face. The use of NIOSH-certified respirators in workplace environments must be accompanied by a full respiratory protection program as specified in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134. Important components of a respiratory protection program include written standard operating procedures, medical evaluation, user training, respirator cleaning and maintenance, and properly fitting the respirator to the user. For more information, please call 3M Technical Service at 1-800-243-4630.

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