

# Using protective kits in bushfire-affected areas

## Public health bushfire information

These protective kits are for people returning to properties affected by fire. They are available from your local government relief and recovery centre, along with additional masks, disposable coveralls and sturdy gloves.

**Kits should only be used for personal protection during property inspections.**

**They are not for asbestos removal or cleanup.**

The information sheet *Please be safe when returning to your property* is included in the kit, which details the health and safety considerations that you should know before re-entering your property.

### Each protective kit contains:

- disposable coveralls
- a disposable P2 face mask
- sturdy gloves
- a garbage bag to dispose of used safety equipment
- information sheets:
  - *Please be safe when returning to your property*
  - *Using protective kits in bushfire-affected areas.*



### How many kits will I need?

As the protective equipment is disposable and should not be reused, several kits may be required for each person, depending on the time spent at the property.

**Masks, coveralls and gloves should be removed and disposed of:**

- **whenever you break from work**
- **when you leave your property**
- **before entering vehicles.**

Wearing sturdy footwear that can be easily cleaned or washed down when leaving your property is recommended.

### How to use the protective equipment:

- Follow the instructions overleaf for guidance on fitting the mask\*.
- Coveralls should be worn over your clothing.

### To remove and dispose of the protective equipment:

- Disposable coveralls must be peeled off inside out and placed in the bag.
- Gloves must be removed and placed in the bag.
- Thoroughly wash down footwear if not being disposed of.
- Remove the face mask last, placing it in the bag.
- Seal the bag tightly by tying a knot.
- Dispose of the bag at any refuse collection point.

### Further information

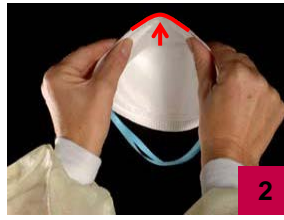
Contact your local government relief and recovery centre for more protective kits or if you have questions about using the kit.

\* **Note:** It is difficult for men with beards or moustaches to achieve an optimal fit with masks.

# How to put on and fit check a P2 or N95 mask



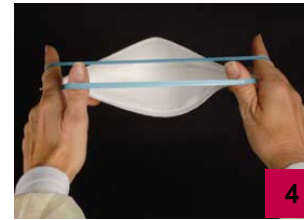
1  
Separate the edges of the mask to fully open it



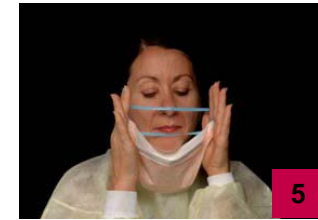
2  
Bend the nose wire to form a gentle curve. The nose wire represents the top of the mask



3  
Hold the mask upside down to expose the two straps



4  
Using your index fingers and thumbs, separate the two straps



5  
While holding the straps, cup the mask under your chin



6  
Pull the straps up and over your head



7  
Place and position the lower strap at the base of your neck (under your ears)



8  
Place the upper strap on the crown of your head so that it runs just above the top of your ears



9  
Gently press the nose wire down across the bridge of your nose until it fits snugly



10  
Continue to adjust the mask and edges until you feel you have achieved a good and comfortable fit

## FIT CHECK

Gently inhale. When you breathe in the mask should draw in slightly toward the face and collapse



**A 'fit check' must be performed each time a P2 or N95 mask is worn**



Gently exhale. The mask should fill up with air. It is important at this stage that there is no air leakage around edges of mask.

Follow these directions each time the mask is worn. The masks will not provide the intended level of protection unless worn correctly so it is important that you achieve a good fit as detailed above. Men who are clean shaven will achieve the best facial seal. The brand of P2 or N95 masks may vary slightly so always follow the manufacturer's instructions and warnings.