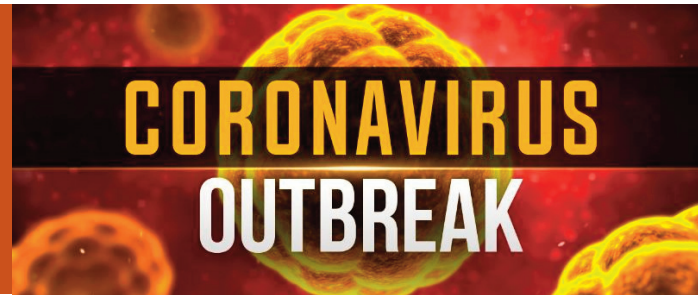


How To Extend the Life of Respiratory Protection



	Recommended Best Practice	Minimum Acceptable Protection	Last Resort
When Respirator Supplies Are Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a surgical mask OVER the N95 to extend its use. Replace the surgical mask between patients. • Use emergency rule to allow for an air purifying respirator (APR)/powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) canister interchangeability. • Use masks beyond their expiration date.* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider reusing your filtering facepiece respirator (FFR). Store in non-plastic bag between uses. • Consider reusing your APR/PAPR canisters — wipe outside down (do not spray) with disinfectant and store in humidity-free environment. DO NOT SPRAY FILTER MEDIA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize protection by exposure risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • > 6' from patient = no mask • 3'-6' = surgical mask • < 3' = N95 or greater
When Respirator Supplies Are Depleted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decontaminate FFPs and reuse (do not share FFPs and APR/PAPR filters between people – maintain FFPs for individuals). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microwave for 2 minutes at 1100-1250W. Place FFP on container containing 50 mL of water to generate steam. • Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UGVI) for 15 minutes on each side using a device fitted with a 40W UV-C bulb. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use surgical face masks with priority given to those meeting ASTM F2100 Level 3 (then Level 2, Level 1, surgical molded utility masks and, finally utility masks). • Consider adding reusable and cleanable face shields to minimize direct exposure with droplets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider homemade respiratory products using common fabric materials (note that the protection level will be minimal, at best). • Requires the use of a reusable and cleanable face shield to minimize interaction with droplets.

* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/release-stockpiled-N95.htm>

** Do not use your normal cooking microwave. Purchase a new one specific for these needs.

For details on each approach, see: <https://emergencyresponsetips.com/papers>.



International Personnel Protection, Inc.

