Employers are obligated to provide workers with personal protective equipment (PPE) while performing their jobs. PPE is required for safe work environments. Administrative and engineering controls should also be considered as they are proven more effective in reducing exposure to COVID-19.

Select PPE based on the hazard posed to the worker. A worker's PPE needs may change based on their daily tasks. PPE should be:

- Fitted, maintained and replaced properly
- Periodically refitted
- Inspected regularly
- Removed, cleaned, stored and disposed of correctly





## **EXPOSURE LEVELS**

**LOW:** Workers who may unexpectedly come in contact with COVID-19, but who can regularly maintain 6 feet distancing with public or are able to telework.

**MEDIUM:** Workers who work regularly with the public without regularly maintaining 6 feet distancing in high-population density environment, but not with known COVID-19 patients.

HIGH: Close contact with known or suspected COVID-19 patients.

**VERY-HIGH:** High potential of contact with COVID-19 patients.

## PPE BASED ON EXPOSURE

**MEDIUM:** Any combination of gloves, gown, face mask, face shield, or goggles. Ensure no Latex glove allergy.

**HIGH:** Gloves, gowns, face masks, face shield, and respirators that are fit tested.

**VERY HIGH:** Workers who work within 6 feet of patients likely suspected of being infected will likely need to use respirators. For additional information for respirator-fit testing see: *osha.oregon.gov/pages/topics/respiratory-protection.aspx* 



## PPE Tip

Face masks and respirators should be National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)—approved, N95 filtering facepiece respirators or above.



If direct contact with COVID-19 patients is expected regularly, PPE may also include medical/surgical gowns, fluid-resistant coveralls, aprons, or other disposable or reusable protective clothing. Gowns should be large enough to cover the areas requiring protection and should be individualized to the worker. OSHA may also provide updated guidance for PPE use on its website; www.osha.gov/covid-19.

