## Conserve PPE During COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conserving PPE?</th>
<th>Device options.</th>
<th>How long to use it.</th>
<th>N95 masks</th>
<th>PAPR/CAPR hoods</th>
<th>Surgical masks</th>
<th>Facility-designed masks</th>
<th>Bandana or homemade masks</th>
<th>Gowns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fit-tested.</td>
<td>• 8 hours.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
<td>• Do not use at this time.</td>
<td>• Do not use at this time.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Non-fit tested.</td>
<td>• Stop when it looks dirty.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Industrial.</td>
<td>• Stop when broken.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Stop when it looks dirty or damaged.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• See when to throw away masks below*.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Extremely low PPE?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device options.</th>
<th>How long to use it.</th>
<th>N95 masks</th>
<th>PAPR/CAPR hoods</th>
<th>Surgical masks</th>
<th>Facility-designed masks</th>
<th>Bandana or homemade masks</th>
<th>Gowns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Fit-tested.</td>
<td>• Stop when mask no longer seals.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
<td>• Facility-designed masks not approved by NIOSH.</td>
<td>• Bandana.</td>
<td>• Commercial made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Non-fit tested.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Non-commercial made.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Homemade.</td>
<td>• Homemade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Industrial.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Not facility-designed.</td>
<td>• Ponchos and patient gowns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Stop when broken.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Disinfect and reuse.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### How long to use it.  

- **Device options.**  
  - Fit-tested.  
  - Non-fit tested.  
  - Industrial.  

- **How long to use it.**  
  - 8 hours.  
  - Stop when it looks dirty.  
  - See when to throw away masks below*.  
  - Stop when broken.  
  - Stop when it looks dirty or damaged.  
  - Stop when mask no longer seals.  

- **N95 masks.**  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Do not use at this time.  
  - Do not use at this time.  
  - Commercial made.  

- **PAPR/CAPR hoods.**  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Commercial made.  

- **Surgical masks.**  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Do not use at this time.  

- **Facility-designed masks.**  
  - Facility-designed masks not approved by NIOSH.  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Commercial made.  

- **Bandana or homemade masks.**  
  - Bandana.  
  - Homemade.  
  - Not facility-designed.  

- **Gowns.**  
  - Commercial made.  
  - Homemade.  
  - Ponchos and patient gowns.  

- **Use for more than 1 patient.**  
  - Stop when it looks dirty.  

**Conserve PPE.**  

- Only use N95 masks for confirmed or suspected COVID-19 patients or procedures with aerosols.  
- Use protection like respirators with correct filters or cartridges and PAPRs instead of N95 masks.  
- Use PPE you can disinfect and reuse like goggles, reusable face shields and cloth gowns.  

**Reduce PPE use if possible.**  

- Limit face-to-face interactions.  
  - Provide care virtually.  
  - Assign 1 worker for each patient.  
  - Assign specific staff to work with COVID-19 patients.  
- Keep unnecessary staff out of rooms with confirmed COVID-19 patients.  

- Procedure with aerosols.  
  - It gets blood or other bodily fluids from patients.  
  - Close contact with or exit from a care area of someone with COVID-19.  

**Throw away N95 masks after:**  

- Procedure with aerosols.  
- It gets blood or other bodily fluids from patients.  

- Close contact with or exit from a care area of someone with COVID-19.

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Learn more and stay updated at [tpchd.org/coronavirus](http://tpchd.org/coronavirus). Find guidance on regular PPE use at [cdc.gov/infectioncontrol](http://cdc.gov/infectioncontrol).