



N95 Respirator Inspection

Things to do before every use

When using any personal protective equipment (PPE) it is important to follow the recommended usage guidelines as well as doing a visual inspection to ensure the integrity of the equipment.

Any employee or physician using an N95 respirator should ALWAYS take the following precautionary measures prior to using the respirator in the workplace:

- Visually inspect the N95 to determine if its integrity has been compromised.
 1. Look for cuts, tears, or holes on both sides of the respirator.
 2. Look for stains or discolouration.
 3. Check that the shape of the respirator has not been deformed during storage.
 4. Check that the staples (if present) are intact and that they have not created tears or holes.
 5. Pull the elastic straps to ensure they are securely attached. Check that the elastic straps return to the original position after being pulled.
 6. Check that the metal nose piece is secure, intact, and centered.
 7. Check that the nose foam on the inside (if present) is secure, intact and positioned appropriately.
 8. Look for loose particles or fibers on the inside that could be breathed in.
- Perform a user seal check immediately after they don each respirator and should not use a respirator on which they cannot perform a successful user seal check.
- If the integrity of any part of the respirator is compromised, or if a successful user seal check cannot be performed, do not use it and try another respirator.
- If you observe an issue with any item of PPE, before, during or after usage, please report it to your supervisor, provide them with the item, and ensure a [product issue](#) form is filled out.



Rolled nose foam



Broken nose piece and crunched



Stretched straps