

Protect Yourself From Chemical and Biological (CB) Contamination Using Your Assigned Protective Mask

031-503-1035

Conditions: You are given your assigned protective mask with a hood and carrier, a canteen with an M1 cap, M8 detector paper, FM 3-3, and one of the following applicable TMs: TM 3-4240-279-10, TM 3-4240-280-10, TM 3-4240-300-10-2, TM 3-4240-312-12&P, or TM 3-4240-346-10. You find yourself in one of the following situations:

1. You hear or see a CB attack.
2. You realize, through other means, that you are under a CB attack.
3. You are ordered to mask.
4. You must enter a contaminated area.

After having donned your protective mask, you need to drink from your canteen.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Do not wear contact lenses when performing this task. Do not use masks with damaged filters because certain models contain hazardous materials. Do not change filter elements in a contaminated environment.

Standards: Protect yourself from CB contamination using your assigned protective mask; don, clear, and check your mask within 9 seconds; and drink water through your protective mask from your canteen without becoming a casualty.

Performance Steps

1. Complete steps 2 through 4 within 9 seconds.
2. Don the mask.
 - a. Stop breathing, and close your eyes.
 - b. Remove your helmet.
 - (1) If you have the M17-, M24-, M25-, M40-, M43-, or M45-series protective mask, put your helmet between your legs (above your knees) or hold your rifle between your legs and place your helmet on the muzzle. If you drop your helmet, continue to mask.
 - (2) If you have the M42-series protective mask, remove your helmet and place it in a convenient location. Avoid placing it on a contaminated surface, if possible.

WARNING: DO NOT WEAR CONTACT LENSES WITH THE PROTECTIVE MASK. REMOVE CONTACT LENSES WHEN THE USE OF CHEMICAL AGENTS IS IMMINENT.

- c. Take off your glasses, if applicable.
- d. Open the mask carrier with one hand.
- e. Grasp the mask assembly with your other hand, and remove it from the carrier.
- f. Put your chin in the chin pocket, and press the face piece snugly against your face.

NOTE: The temple and forehead straps have already been adjusted during fitting.

- g. Grasp the tab, and pull the head harness over your head. Ensure that your ears are between the temple straps and the cheek straps. Ensure that the head harness is pulled far enough over your head so that the forehead straps are tight.
- h. Use one hand to tighten the cheek straps, one at a time, while holding the head pad centered on the back of your head with the other hand. Ensure that the straps lay flat against your head.

3. Clear the mask.

- a. Seal the outlet valve by pushing in on the center of the outlet valve cover with one hand.
- b. Blow out hard to ensure that any contaminated air is forced out around the edges of the face piece.

4. Check the mask.

- a. Cover the inlet port of the filter canister (M40 and M45 series) or the inlet port of the armor quick disconnect (M42 series) with the palm of your hand, and inhale.
- b. Ensure that the face piece collapses against your face and remains so while you hold your breath, which indicates that the mask is airtight.
- c. Remove any hair, clothing, or other matter between your face and the mask if the face piece does not collapse to your face.
- d. Notify your chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) noncommissioned officer (NCO) if the mask still does not collapse.

5. Resume breathing.

NOTE: There are no time standards for donning the hood.

6. Secure the mask hood.

CAUTION: BE CAREFUL WHEN PULLING ON THE HOOD BECAUSE IT COULD SNAG AND TEAR ON THE BUCKLES OF THE HEAD HARNESS.

- a. If you have the M17-, M25-, M42-, or M43-series protective mask, pull the hood over your head and zip the front closed to cover all bare skin.
- b. If you have the M24- or M45-series protective mask, pull the M7 hood over your helmet and head so that the hood covers your shoulders.
- c. If you have the M40-series protective mask, don the hood so that it lies smoothly on your head.

(1) For masks equipped with the regular hood—

- (a) Grasp the back edge of the hood skirt.

NOTE: The face piece should collapse against your face and remain so while you hold your breath. If it does, the face piece is airtight. If the face piece does not collapse, check for hair, clothing, or other matter between the face piece and your face.

- (b) Pull the hood completely over your head so that it covers the back of your head, neck, and shoulders.

- (c) Zip the front of the hood closed by pulling the zipper slider downward.

- (d) Tighten the draw cord.

- (e) Secure the underarm straps by fastening and adjusting them.

- (f) Close your mask carrier.

- (g) Continue your mission.

(2) For masks equipped with the quick-doff hood—

- (a) Place your hands inside the hood and expand the elastic gathering around the neck of the hood.

- (b) Stretch and carefully pull the hood over your head so that the hood covers your head, neck, and shoulders.

- (c) Fasten the underarm straps.

- (d) Put on the helmet.

NOTE: If you have a combat vehicle crewman (CVC) helmet, perform the following steps: 1. Disconnect the boom microphone from the helmet. 2. Connect the mask microphone to the receptacle in the helmet. 3. Grasp the helmet next to the ear cups with your hand, and spread the helmet as far as possible. 4. Place the helmet over your head, tilting the helmet forward slightly so that the first contact when putting it on is with the forehead surface of the mask. 5. Rotate the helmet back and down over your head until it is seated in position.

- (e) Close your mask carrier.
- (f) Continue your mission.

NOTE: If the Soldier is using the mask in conjunction with the joint-Service, lightweight integrated suit technology (JSLIST), he skips this step (the mask lacks a hood because it is built in on the JSLIST).

7. Drink water while wearing the mask (only applies to masks equipped with a drinking tube.)

WARNING: DO NOT CONNECT THE QUICK-DISCONNECT COUPLING TO YOUR CANTEEN UNTIL ALL SURFACES ARE FREE OF CONTAMINATION. CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION COULD ENTER YOUR MOUTH, AND YOU COULD BECOME A CASUALTY.

WARNING. DO NOT BREAK THE MASK SEAL WHILE DRINKING FROM THE CANTEEN.

- a. Press in on the top of the outlet valve cover until the internal drink tube can be grasped between your teeth.
- b. Steady the mask assembly, and pull the quick-disconnect coupling out of the outlet valve cover.
- c. Flip open the cover on the M1 canteen cap.
- d. Push the quick-disconnect coupling into the canteen cap so that the pin enters the quick-disconnect coupling.

WARNING: IF RESISTANCE IS NOT FELT, YOUR DRINKING SYSTEM IS LEAKING. DO NOT DRINK. REPLACE YOUR CANTEEN. IF RESISTANCE IS STILL NOT FELT, NOTIFY YOUR CBRN NCO.

- e. Blow to create positive pressure. You should feel some resistance.

NOTE: Do not tilt your head back while drinking.

- f. Raise the canteen upside down and drink if the system does not leak.
- g. Stop drinking after several swallows, and lower the canteen. Blow into the internal drink tube to prevent the canteen from collapsing. Repeat the drinking procedure as required.

- 8. Remove the mask for storage.
- 9. Perform all steps in sequence without becoming a casualty.

Evaluation Preparation: Setup: Evaluate this task during a field exercise or a tactical training session. Use a mask previously fitted to the Soldier's face. The Soldier will bring his flight or CVC helmet. The Soldier should be in MOPP4. Do not use a new decontamination kit for every Soldier; use the kit as long as possible. Ensure that the Soldier has M8 detector paper in the mask carrier before testing. If the Soldier has not made adequate progress towards drinking from the canteen after 2 minutes, stop him and give him a NO-GO. This time standard is administrative.

Brief Soldier: Tell the Soldier to stand, while wearing his mask carrier containing his assigned protective mask with hood attached. Provide the Soldier with one of the scenarios described in the conditions statement (cue to begin masking). Tell him to keep the mask on until you issue the all clear order. Tell the Soldier that all time standards are for administrative (noncombat) evaluation purposes only. Tell him to drink water while wearing his assigned mask.

Performance Measures

GO **NO-GO**

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| 1. Completed steps 2 through 4 within 9 seconds. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Donned the mask. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Cleared the mask. | _____ | _____ |

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| 4. Checked the mask. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Resumed breathing. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Secured the mask hood. | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Drank water while wearing the mask. | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Removed the mask for storage. | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Performed all steps in sequence without becoming a casualty. | _____ | _____ |

Evaluation Guidance: Score the Soldier GO if all steps are passed (P). Score the Soldier NO-GO if any step is failed (F). If the Soldier fails any step, show him how to do it correctly.

References

Required

FM 3-11.4

FM 3-3

TM 3-4240-279-10

TM 3-4240-280-10

TM 3-4240-300-10-2

TM 3-4240-346-10

Related

TM 3-4240-312-12&P