

WAC 296-307-61015 Inspect and repair respirators.

You must:

- Conduct respirator inspections as often as specified in Table 9.
- Make sure respirator inspections cover **all** of the following:
 - Respirator function
 - Tightness of connections
 - The condition of the facepiece, head straps, valves, connecting tubes, and cartridge, canisters or filters
 - Pliability and deterioration of elastomeric parts
 - Maintenance of air or oxygen cylinders
 - Making sure SCBA air cylinders are at ninety percent of the manufacturer's recommended pressure level
 - Proper functioning of SCBA regulators when air-flow is activated
 - Proper functioning of SCBA low-pressure warning devices when activated
- Certify inspections for emergency respirators by documenting the following:
 - Inspection date
 - Serial number of each respirator or other identifying information
 - Inspector's name or signature
 - Inspection findings
 - Required action, if problems are found.

Note:

- When documenting inspections you may either:
 - Provide the information on a tag or label and attach it to the respirator compartment
- OR**
- Include the information in an inspection report stored in paper or electronic files accessible to employees.

You must:

- Repair or replace any respirator that is not functioning properly **before** the employee returns to a situation where respirators are required.
 - If respirators fail inspection or are not functioning properly during use due to problems such as leakage, vapor or gas breakthrough, or increased breathing resistance, **ALL** of the following apply:
 - Do **NOT** permit such respirators to be used until properly repaired or adjusted
 - Use only NIOSH-certified parts
 - Make sure repairs and adjustments are made by appropriately trained individuals
 - Use the manufacturer or a technician trained by the manufacturer to repair or adjust reducing and admission valves, regulators, and warning devices on SCBAs or air-line respirators.
 - Follow the manufacturer's recommendations and specifications for the type and extent of repairs.
- Use Table 9 to determine how often to inspect respirators.

**Table 9
Required Frequencies for Respirator Inspections**

If the respirator is ...	Then inspect ...
A SCBA in any use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before each use AND <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During cleaning OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly if NOT used

If the respirator is ...	Then inspect ...
Used for nonemergencies, including day-to-day or infrequent use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect before each use <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During cleaning
Used only for emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check for proper function before and after each use <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect at least monthly as instructed by the manufacturer
Used for escape-only purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before carrying into a work place for use

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-61015, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]