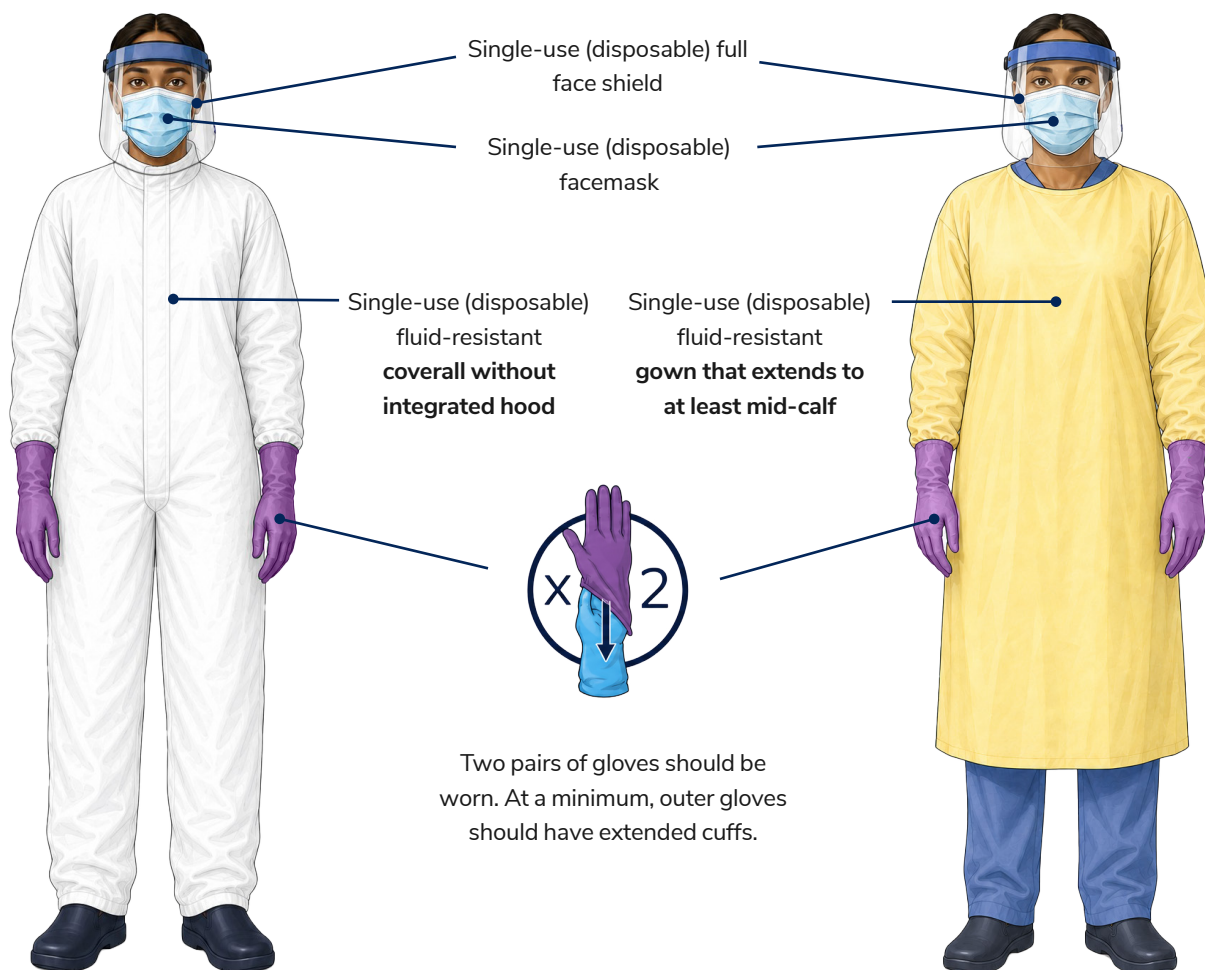


Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) When Caring for Clinically Stable Patients with Suspected Ebola Disease

Follow these PPE procedures when caring for patients suspected of having Ebola disease who are clinically stable AND do not have bleeding, vomiting, or diarrhea.



If the patient is confirmed to have Ebola disease or is clinically unstable and has bleeding, vomiting, or diarrhea, use other guidance instead.



Before providing care, healthcare personnel should:

- ✓ **Complete comprehensive PPE training**, including when and what PPE is necessary, how to safely put on and take off PPE, limitations of PPE, and proper care, maintenance, and disposal of PPE.
- ✓ **Demonstrate competency** in infection control practices and procedures.

PPE Reminders

- PPE must remain in place and be worn correctly for the duration of work in **potentially contaminated areas**.
- **Do not adjust** PPE during patient care (e.g., do not retie gown, do not adjust facemask).
 - If an adjustment is needed, step away from the immediate patient area and perform a risk assessment to determine how to safely address the adjustment without posing risk for self-exposure.
 - In some situations, this may require exiting the room for support from a removal assistant.
- Put on and take off PPE **slowly and deliberately**, following the specific training sequence to prevent self-contamination.



Using PPE when Caring for Clinically Stable Patients with Suspected Ebola Disease

The steps below show one way to put on and take off PPE safely. Other approved sequences may be acceptable. Carefully follow your facility's training steps to ensure your gear protects you and you know how to safely remove it without contaminating yourself.

Putting on PPE Before Entering Patient Room



01. Remove Personal Items and Prepare for PPE

- Remove all personal clothing and items.
- Do not wear or bring items such as jewelry (including rings), watches, cell phones, pagers, or pens into the patient room.
- Wear surgical scrubs (or disposable garments).
- Tie back long hair.
- Secure eyeglasses with a tie.



02. Inspect PPE and Prepare to Put it on

- Check all PPE for damage (e.g., tears or rips).
- Ensure all required PPE and supplies are available and the correct size.



03. Perform Hand Hygiene

- Use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR).
- Allow hands to dry completely.



04. Put on Inner Gloves

- Put on the first pair of gloves.



05. Put on Gown or Coverall

- Ensure it fits properly and allows free movement.
- Tuck the cuffs of the inner gloves under the gown or coverall sleeves.



06. Put on Facemask

- Cover nose and mouth.



07. Put on Outer Gloves

- Put on a second pair of gloves with extended cuffs.
- Pull glove cuffs over the gown or coverall sleeves.



08. Put on Full Face Shield

- Put it on over the facemask.
- Ensure it protects the eyes and the front and sides of the face.



09. Verify PPE Fit and Integrity

- Check for tears, gaps, or exposed skin.
- Confirm you can move comfortably (e.g., extend arms, bend, and perform patient-care tasks) while maintaining full coverage.
- Use a mirror if available.

Once PPE is properly fitted and verified, healthcare personnel may enter the patient room.



Taking Off PPE

PPE Reminders

- PPE is doffed in the designated PPE removal area in the healthcare facility.
- Remove PPE **slowly and deliberately** and in the **correct sequence** to reduce the possibility of self-contamination.
- Place all PPE waste in a **leak-proof infectious waste container**.



01. Inspect PPE Before Removal

- Check for visible contamination, cuts, or tears before removal.
- If visibly contaminated, clean and disinfect the affected areas of the PPE with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.



02. Disinfect and Remove Outer Gloves

- Disinfect outer gloves with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.
- Remove and discard outer gloves without contaminating the inner gloves.
- Dispose of gloves in the designated infectious waste container.



03. Inspect and Disinfect Inner Gloves

- Check inner gloves for contamination, cuts, or tears. **If a cut or tear is detected in an inner glove, immediately follow the facility's occupational exposure protocol.**
- **If visibly soiled** but **no** tears or cuts, disinfect the gloves with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR, remove and discard them, perform hand hygiene with ABHR, and put on a new pair of gloves before continuing to the next step.
- **If not visibly soiled** and **no** tears or cuts, disinfect the gloves with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.



04. Remove Full Face Shield

- Tilt head slightly forward.
- Grasp the rear strap and pull it gently over the head, allowing the face shield to fall forward.
- Avoid touching the front surface of the face shield or the face during removal.
- Discard the face shield in the designated infectious waste container.



05. Disinfect Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.



06. Remove Gown or Coverall

- For *gowns*, untie, unfasten, or gently break fasteners as needed before removal.
- For *coveralls*, tilt the head back to reach the zipper or fasteners. Fully unzip or unfasten before rolling down and removing.
- Avoid contact between scrubs or disposable garments and the contaminated outer surface of the gown or coverall during removal.
- Touch only the inside of the gown or coverall during removal.
- Roll the gown or coverall inside out as it is removed.
- Use a mirror, if available, to help avoid contaminating skin or inner garments.
- Discard the gown or coverall in the designated infectious waste container.



07. Disinfect and Change Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.
- Remove and discard inner gloves, taking care not to contaminate bare hands during the removal process.
- Perform hand hygiene with ABHR.
- Put on a new pair of inner gloves before continuing to the next step.



Taking Off PPE



08. Remove Facemask

- Tilt head slightly forward.
- Remove by grasping the bottom tie or elastic strap first, then the top tie or elastic strap.
- Remove the facemask without touching the front surface.
- Discard the facemask in the designated infectious waste container.



09. Disinfect and Remove Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.
- Remove gloves, taking care not to contaminate bare hands during the removal process.
- Dispose of inner gloves in the designated infectious waste container.



10. Perform Hand Hygiene

- Use ABHR.
- Allow hands to dry completely.



11. Inspect for Any Contamination of the Surgical Scrubs or Disposable Garments

- If contamination is identified, carefully remove the contaminated garments, shower immediately, and notify the infection preventionist or occupational safety and health coordinator (or designee).

***An EPA-registered disinfectant wipe is recommended** in some of the removal steps. Use a disposable wipe impregnated with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered hospital disinfectant from [List Q](#); for Ebola, products from [List L](#) can also be used. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for recommended contact times.

