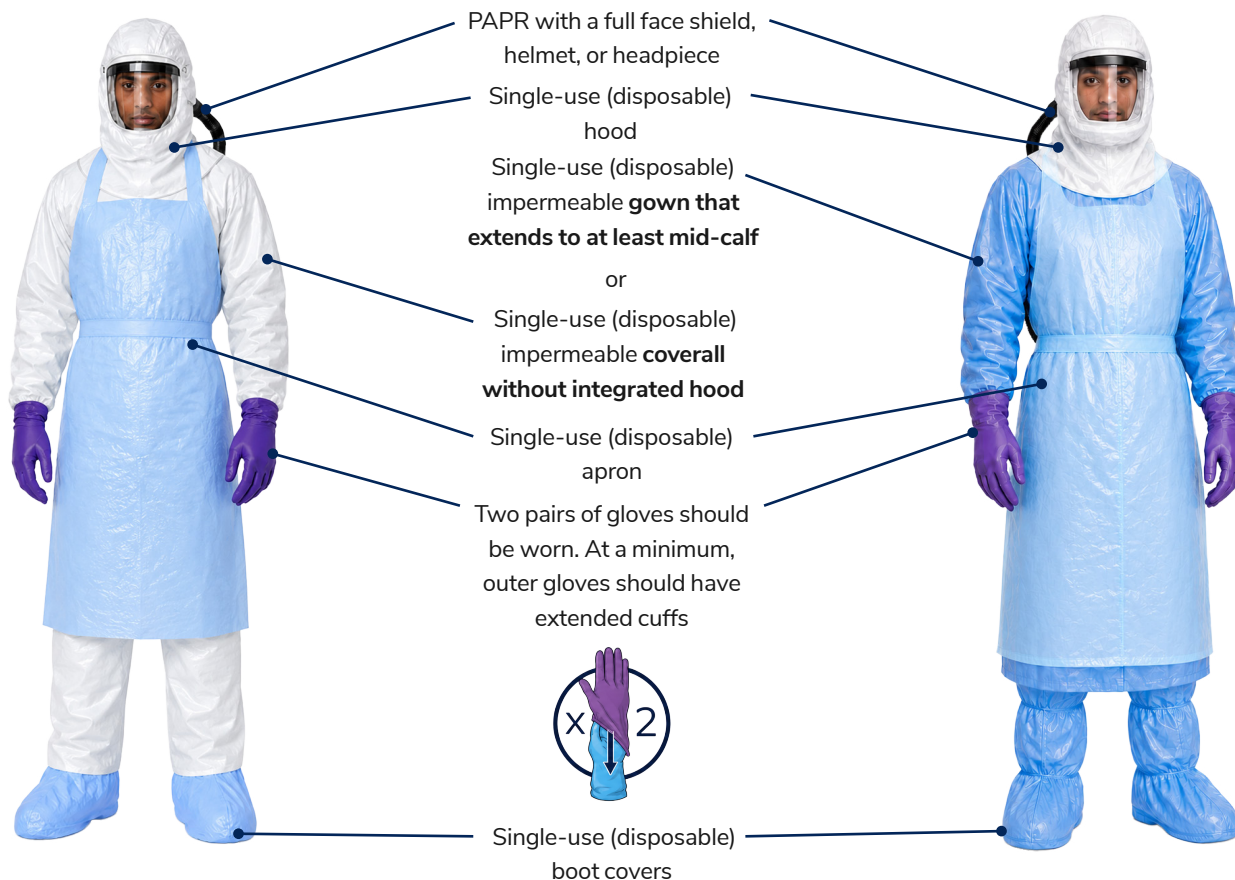


Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) When Caring for Patients with **Confirmed Ebola or Clinically Unstable Patients with Suspected Ebola Disease (PAPR Option)**

For healthcare facilities that use a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR). Follow these PPE procedures when caring for patients with confirmed Ebola at any stage of illness, or patients with suspected Ebola who are **clinically unstable or experiencing bleeding, vomiting, or diarrhea**.



If the patient is not confirmed to have Ebola disease and is clinically stable, use this [guidance](#) instead.



Before providing care, healthcare personnel must:

- ✓ **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

- A trained observer should guide you in putting on your PPE. They will:
 - Use a written checklist to verify each step for putting on your PPE.
 - Confirm all of your PPE is serviceable and correctly worn.
 - Ensure no clothing, skin, or hair is exposed before you enter the potentially contaminated area (e.g., patient room).
- PPE must remain in place and be worn correctly for the entire duration of work in potentially contaminated areas.
- **Do not adjust PPE during patient care** (e.g., do not retie gown, do not adjust respirator). 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 doffing (removal) assistant.



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[PAPR Use](#)



[Watch Videos](#)



[Review Instructions](#)



For healthcare facilities that use a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR)

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 with a PAPR Before Entering Patient Room



01. Remove Personal Items and Prepare for PPE

- Remove all personal clothing and items.
- Wear surgical scrubs (or disposable garments).
- Do not wear or bring items such as jewelry (including rings), watches, cell phones, pagers, or pens into the patient room.
- Wear dedicated washable plastic or rubber footwear.
- 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.
- Review the sequence to put on PPE with the trained observer before starting.
- The trained observer reads the sequence to put on PPE aloud step-by-step.



03. Put on Boot Covers (Skip this step if wearing a coverall with integrated socks)

- If wearing a coverall without integrated socks, the upper band of the boot cover should be worn under the coverall pant leg to prevent pooling of liquids.
- Perform hand hygiene using 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 Impermeable Gown or Impermeable Coverall

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

Option A

If your PAPR has a self-contained filter and blower unit that is integrated inside the helmet: Put on the belt and battery unit *before* the gown or coverall.

Option B

If your PAPR has an external belt-mounted blower: Keep the blower and tubing outside the gown or coverall.



06. Put on Outer Gloves

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



07. Put on PAPR

- Put on the PAPR with a full face shield, helmet, or headpiece.
- Use a single-use (disposable) hood that extends to the shoulders and fully covers neck.
- Be sure that the hood covers all of the hair and the ears, and that it extends past the neck to the shoulders.



08. Put on Outer Apron (if used)

- Wear disposable apron to provide additional protection for the front of the body.



09. Verify PPE Fit and Integrity

- The trained observer verifies that the PPE ensemble is complete, intact, and correctly worn.
- Check for tears, gaps, or exposed clothing, skin, or hair.
- 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 with a PAPR

For healthcare facilities that use a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR)

- ! Removing used PPE is a high-risk process. You need:**
- ✓ A structured procedure
 - ✓ A trained observer
 - ✓ A doffing assistant, in some situations
 - ✓ A designated area for PPE removal

PPE Reminders

- Remove PPE **slowly and deliberately** and in the **correct sequence** to reduce the possibility of self-contamination or other exposure to the virus.
- Place all PPE waste in a **leak-proof infectious waste container** (see next steps).
- Remove PPE under the guidance and supervision of a trained observer. The **trained observer should not provide physical assistance** during PPE removal process. They will:
 - Read each step of the PPE removal process aloud. The person removing their PPE should wait until each step is read before they perform that action.
 - Observe the performance of each step and confirm PPE is removed correctly.
 - Remind the healthcare personnel to avoid touching their face or making other reflexive movements that could cause contamination.



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 Outer Gloves

- Disinfect outer gloves with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.
- Allow gloves to dry completely.



03. Remove Outer Apron (if used)

- Remove the apron by breaking or untying the neck strap and waist ties.
- Roll the apron away from the body, keeping the contaminated surface inside the apron.
- Discard the apron in the designated infectious waste container.



04. Inspect PPE

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



05. 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.



06. 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.



07. Remove PAPR with External Belt-Mounted Blower (Skip this step if using a PAPR with a self-contained blower inside the helmet)

- Remove the PAPR headpiece. Assistance may be needed while it remains connected to the blower and filter unit.
- Remove the belt-mounted blower unit.
- Place reusable PAPR components in the designated container for disinfection.



08. Disinfect Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.



Taking Off PPE with a PAPR

For healthcare facilities that use a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR)



09. Remove Gown or Coverall

- For *gowns*, untie, unfasten, or gently break fasteners as needed before removal. A doffing assistant can help with unfastening.
- 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.



10. Disinfect Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.



11. Remove Boot Covers

- Sit on a clean surface to remove the boot covers.
- Avoid contaminating scrub pant legs during removal.
- Discard the boot covers in the designated infectious waste container.



12. Disinfect Washable Footwear

- Wipe all external surfaces of the washable footwear with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.



13. Disinfect Inner Gloves

- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.



14. Remove PAPR with a Self-Contained Blower in Helmet (if used)

- Remove the disposable hood.
- Discard the disposable hood in the designated infectious waste container.
- Disinfect inner gloves with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe or ABHR.
- Remove the helmet and belt/battery unit. Assistance may be needed.
- Place reusable PAPR components in the designated container for disinfection.



15. Disinfect and Remove Inner Gloves

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



16. Perform Hand Hygiene

- Use ABHR.
- Allow hands to dry completely.



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

- Both the trained observer and the healthcare personnel inspect for 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).



18. Proceed to Showering Area

- Healthcare personnel can leave the PPE removal area wearing their dedicated washable footwear and surgical scrubs or disposable garments, proceeding directly to showering area where these are removed.

*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.

