

PPE Best Practice.

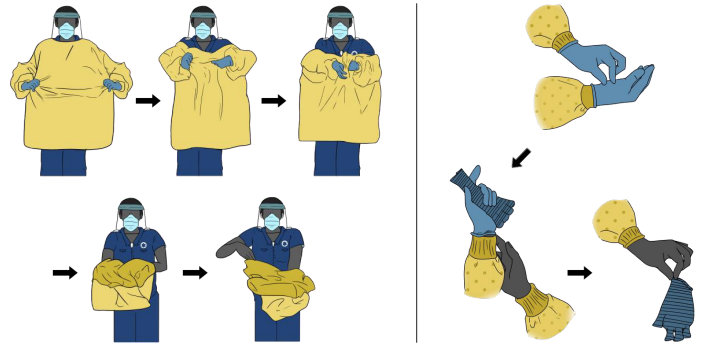
Taking off PPE



It's important to exercise caution when removing contaminated personal protective equipment (PPE). On arrival, after the patient is released to the facility, EMS providers should remove and discard PPE.¹ To help minimize risk of infection, we recommend following the CDC guidelines.

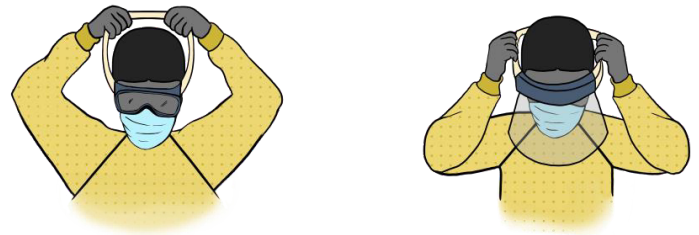
1 Gown and gloves

- Using gloved hands to touch the outside of the gown only, grasp the front and pull away from your body to break the ties.
- As you remove the gown, fold or roll it inside-out and into a bundle.
- When reaching wrists, remove gloves with the gown, only touching the inside of gloves and gown with bare hands—place bundle in waste container.



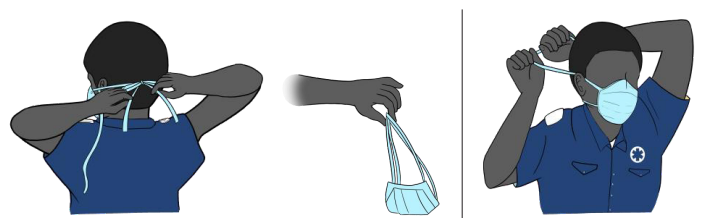
2 Goggles/face shield

- Remove from the back, lifting the headband—do not touch the front.
- Place reusable items in the designated reprocessing receptacle; discard disposable items in waste container.



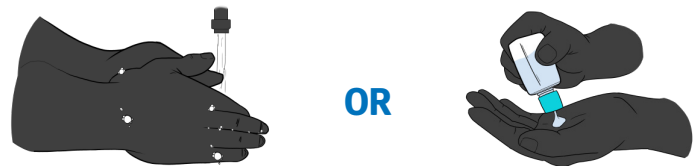
3 Mask/respirator

- Grasp bottom fasteners, followed by the top and remove mask/respirator without touching the front with bare hands.
- Discard in waste container.



4 Hand Hygiene

- After all PPE is removed, wash hands or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



CONTAMINATION WARNING:

The outside of your PPE is contaminated. If your hands come in contact with these outside surfaces, immediately wash them or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

References: 1. Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems and 911 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) for COVID-19 in the United States. CDC.gov. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html#recommended-ppe>. Accessed May 14, 2020.