

	Environmental Health and Safety
Safety Guideline	Donning and Doffing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
	Effective Date: May 2020

It is important to don and doff PPE appropriately to ensure personnel protection because PPE could be contaminated with hazardous agents after use.

Procedure:

Don PPE in the following order:

1. Lab coat or gown
2. Respiratory protection (surgical mask, respirator) (if needed)
3. Shoe covers and/or bouffant cap (if needed)
4. Face/eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, face mask)—adjust to fit
5. Gloves—extend to cover wrists of lab coat or gown

Doff PPE in the following order:

1. Gloves
 - Avoid touching the outside of the gloves with bare hands
 - Immediately dispose as biohazardous waste
2. Face/eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, face mask)
 - Handle by headband or earpiece
 - Place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste
3. Lab coat or gown
 - Unfasten ties/buttons/snaps
 - Remove by touching the inside of the lab coat/gown only
 - Turn inside out
 - Fold or bundle and place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste

4. Respiratory protection (surgical mask, respirator)
 - Grasp bottom then top ties or elastics and remove
 - Place in designated receptacle for decontamination or dispose as biohazardous waste
5. Shoe coverings and/or bouffant cap
 - Remove by touching the inside only
 - Immediately dispose as biohazardous waste
6. Wash hands with soap and water per the Hand Sanitation SOP

Cautions & Considerations

- ✓ The type of PPE required will vary for different procedures or hazards and is described in lab-specific SOPs
- ✓ Ensure that PPE fits correctly and covers exposed skin
- ✓ Change gloves whenever contaminated or compromised
- ✓ When double gloving, remove and dispose of outer gloves with hands inside the biosafety cabinet then re-don outer gloves after removing hands from the biosafety cabinet
- ✓ When removing PPE, treat the outside of all items as though contaminated
- ✓ Remove PPE and wash hands before entering public areas
- ✓ Keep gloved hands away from face or items that are handled with bare hands
- ✓ Send reusable PPE for laundering only to an approved cleaning company

Resources

- ✓ CDC Fact Sheet [“How to remove gloves”](#)
- ✓ CDC Fact Sheet [“Sequence for Donning/Doffing Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)”](#)