



Is Your N-95 Respirator Real, or FAKE?

CDC Offers Guidance to help

While N-95 respirators and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) have long been used in standard nomenclature for those of us in the safety profession, they are two terms that have become commonplace in public now. Many people that are not safety professionals may be struggling with how to ensure that their respirators are approved. Below is some simple advice from the CDC. Links for additional information has also been provided.

A NIOSH approved respirator will have a label on the packaging, and more often, the respirator itself. If you are concerned, you can verify the approval number by checking the [NIOSH Certified Equipment List](#). You may also check the [NIOSH Trusted Source Information](#) page to check your respirator. Some basic things to look at first include:

- Are there proper markings on the respirator?
- Is there an approval number on the face piece or headband?
- Is NIOSH spelled correctly?
- Are there claims that the respirator will protect a child?
- Are there ear loops instead of headbands?
- Did you purchase the respirator online for far less than what the typical market value is?
- Did the supplier that you purchased the respirator from use a free email service, such as Google?
- Where was the respirator made?
- Are there typos, odd markings, and misspelled words on the seller's website and product?

For additional information, please click the link below or contact your Safety Specialist for assistance.

[CDC Website Counterfeit Respirator Webpage](#)

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ORCIG 2020 SafeAlert Series

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