

# Personal Protective Equipment: Doffing



After response tasks are completed, responders should begin doffing PPE upon leaving the Hot Zone. When doffing PPE, it is important to take precautions and follow the proper procedure to ensure contaminants are not carried or spread off of the premises. Use of the buddy system can aid in removing PPE. Follow the steps below to ensure that PPE is doffed, or removed, correctly.

## Doffing Level C PPE

### ➤ Doffing begins in the Hot Zone – Exclusion Zone (EZ).

- Dry brush the exterior of the PPE to remove organic material.
- Enter the Warm Zone/Contamination Reduction Zone (CRZ) to continue the doffing procedure.



### ➤ Remove all chemical-resistant tape.

- From the suit, including gloves, boots, facepiece, and zipper.
- Dispose of tape in provided containers.



### ➤ Spray suit with disinfectant.

### ➤ Remove PPE.

- Remove the outer layer gloves.
- Unzip the protective suit.
- Remove hood by reaching inside and rolling it back, touching only the inside surface. This step is easiest with the assistance of a teammate.
- Pull the suit off the shoulders, turning it inside out to ensure any residual contaminant is kept away from the body.
- Sitting on a stool or other support, remove outer boot covers.
- Scrub inner boots with disinfectant.
- Peel the protective suit down from head to toe and step out of the suit.
- Place them in a designated container.



➤ **Remove the air purifying respirator (APR) and inner gloves.**

- Dispose of gloves and suit in containers provided
- Place APR in designated container.

➤ **Remove scrub suit and socks.**

- Place them in a designated container.

➤ **Take a complete shower, including a shampoo, freshly laundered clothing.**

- Clean under their fingernails.
- Clear their respiratory passages by blowing their noses, clearing their throats, and expectorating into a sink with running water.
- If there is not a shower facility provided at the premises, this should be done at a shower in a location without animals.
- This should be done immediately after leaving the infected or exposed area and before visiting public places.



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## Additional Resources

- USDA Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness (FAD PReP): Personal Protective Equipment Guidelines [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/emergency\\_management/downloads/nahems\\_guidelines/fadprep\\_nahems\\_guidelines\\_ppe\\_final\\_april2011.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/emergency_management/downloads/nahems_guidelines/fadprep_nahems_guidelines_ppe_final_april2011.pdf)
- NIOSH Certified Filtering Facepiece Respirators [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp\\_part/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/)
- NIOSH Certified Respirators [http://www2a.cdc.gov/drds/cel/cel\\_form\\_code.asp](http://www2a.cdc.gov/drds/cel/cel_form_code.asp)
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/>

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