

Protective Clothing

Discussion

Protective clothing is the most essential piece of life safety equipment a firefighter is issued. It is designed to allow you certain levels of protection for a variety of situations. It does however have certain capabilities and limitation and must be cared for according to specific manufacturer instructions. Inspections must take place on a regular basis and should include an especially careful review of all of the components after heavy use. Equipment usage levels for incidents should be specified by department procedure and will specify what will be worn at incidents. Proper care, cleaning and the method of reporting equipment needing repair or maintenance should also be included in the procedure. Each individual firefighter must be responsible for their own clothing and be knowledgeable in the **capabilities and limitations of each piece of clothing**. Review your department procedures for clothing inspections, use, care and maintenance and most importantly, the levels of protective clothing required on incidents. Review all component manufacturer instructions for each piece of equipment you are issued.

General Protective Clothing Questions

1. What items does your department classify as personal protective clothing?
1. What are the preventive maintenance cycles for it?
2. What are the cleaning procedures for each piece of clothing?
3. How do you and to who do you report defects of problems with your gear to?



DANGER

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY CODE

The member companies of FEMSA that provide emergency response equipment and services want responders to know and understand the following:

1. Firefighting and Emergency Response are inherently dangerous activities requiring proper training in their hazards and the use of extreme caution at all times.
2. It is your responsibility to read and understand any user's instructions provided with any piece of equipment you may be called upon to use.
3. It is your responsibility to know that you have been properly trained in Firefighting and/or Emergency Response and in the use, precautions, and care of any equipment you may be called upon to use.
4. It is your responsibility to be in proper physical condition and to maintain the personal skill level required to operate any equipment you may be called upon to use.
5. It is your responsibility to know that your equipment is in operable condition and has been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
6. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in death, burns or other severe injury.



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Structure Fire Protective Clothing

1. What are the components of clothing used for structure fire response?
2. What procedures or guidelines exist for use of these components during;
 - Initial attack
 - Ventilation
 - Overhaul
3. Identify the components of each layer of structural gear and describe what each layer is intended to do



Type of Incident	List Gear Required	Usage Comments
Structure Fire		
Auto Accident		
EMS Response		
Tech Rescue		
HazMat Response		
Brush Fire		
Vehicle Fire		