

# Face Fit ssessor

Trainer Resource Handout  
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## About This Handout

This handout is designed for use by **Face Fit Assessors** as a delegate resource. It covers the key knowledge areas, legislation, and practical skills required for the course. Delegates may retain this handout for future reference.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, delegates will be able to:

- Understand the legal requirements for face fit testing
- Perform qualitative and quantitative face fit tests
- Select appropriate RPE for different workplace hazards
- Maintain accurate face fit testing records
- Deliver face fit testing training to colleagues

## Key Legislation & Standards

- COSHH Regulations 2002
- PPE at Work Regulations 1992
- HSE guidance HSG53

## Core Knowledge — Face Fit Assessor

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### Why Face Fit Testing Matters

Respiratory protective equipment only works if it fits correctly. Even a small gap in the seal can allow hazardous substances to enter. Face fit testing ensures the RPE selected provides adequate protection for each individual wearer.

### Types of RPE

Half-face respirators cover the nose and mouth. Full-face respirators cover the entire face. Powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs) use a motor to draw air through filters. Each type requires different fit factors.

### Testing Methods

Qualitative testing uses the wearer's senses (taste or smell) to detect leakage. Quantitative testing uses instruments to measure actual leakage. Both methods require the wearer to perform a series of exercises during the test.

## Practical Skills & Key Points

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- ✓ Set up and calibrate face fit testing equipment
- ✓ Conduct qualitative fit tests using saccharin or bitrex
- ✓ Conduct quantitative fit tests using PortaCount or similar
- ✓ Interpret fit factors and determine pass/fail
- ✓ Complete face fit testing records
- ✓ Advise on RPE selection and maintenance

### Key Facts to Remember

- Facial hair can prevent a good seal — wearers must be clean-shaven
- Fit testing must be repeated if facial characteristics change significantly
- Different RPE models may fit differently — test the specific model to be used
- Records must be kept and made available to employees

