

# Protective Clothing for Pesticide Use

Editor's note: Our Tailgate Training Tip Sheets are [available in Spanish at www.gemplers.com](http://www.gemplers.com).

## KEY POINTS:

- Keep your personal protective clothing clean and in good condition.
- Never wear personal protective clothing that has a tear, leak or other damage.
- Don't store protective clothing near pesticides or in a dirty place such as a workbench.

**Note to trainer:** Follow this script or use it to help guide you through a 10- to 15-minute tailgate training session for your ag/hort workers. You may photocopy this sheet for your employees' personal use. However, it may not be published or sold.

Bring to your training session samples of some of the protective clothing used by your employees.

## Why protective clothing is important

- Personal protective clothing is designed to help keep toxic substances such as pesticides from getting on or in your body.
- The law requires you to wear protective clothing if it is specified on the label of the pesticide you are using.
- Protective clothing helps protect different parts of your body. Some examples of protective clothing are chemical resistant:
  - [coveralls](#)
  - [aprons](#)
  - [gloves](#)
  - [boots](#)
  - hoods

- Other protective equipment may include respirators, safety glasses or goggles.

**Note to trainer:** Show trainees examples of the protective clothing used in your operation.

- Always check the label of the pesticide you are using to find out what protective clothing you should wear.

## Wearing protective clothing

- It's important to take good care of your protective clothing because it's a barrier to keeping pesticides out.
- That includes carefully checking your coveralls, gloves and other clothing for holes, tears, leaks, changes in color, cracks or other damage each time you prepare to put them on.

**Warning:** Immediately stop working if you spot a tear, hole or other damage to your protective clothing. Ask your supervisor for replacement clothing. If you notice a leak, wash or shower immediately.

- Be sure to wear clean protective clothing each day.



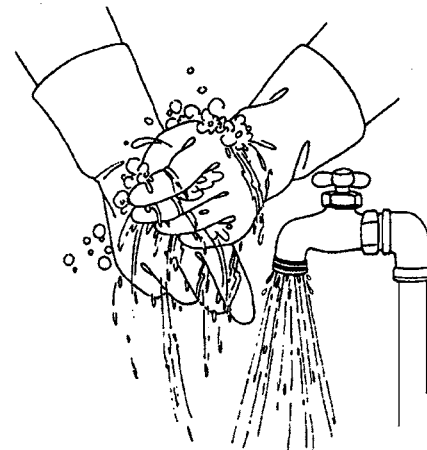
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See our [full line of safety supplies](#), including respirators, eye and ear protection, coveralls, first aid and more.

## Protective Clothing for Pesticide Use

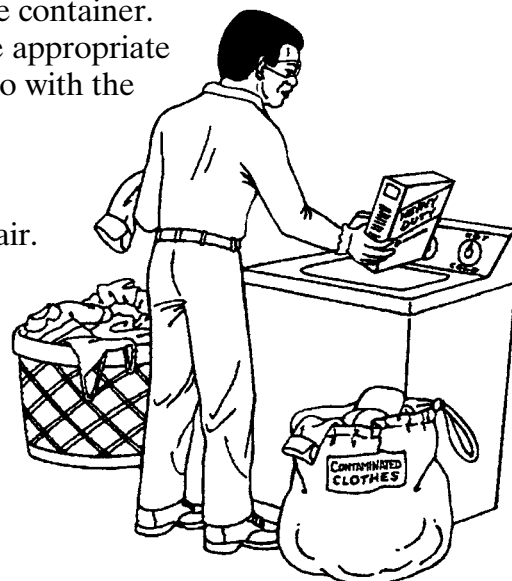
### When you take a break

- Wash the outside of your gloves with soap and water before you take them off.
- Rinse your shoes or boots with soap and water.
- Thoroughly wash your hands and face with soap and plenty of clean water before you eat, drink, smoke or use the toilet.
- Don't touch the outside of your protective clothing with your bare hands.
- Be careful where you walk or sit, since pesticide residues on your shoes or clothing can rub off.



### When you finish work

1. Wash the outside of your gloves and shoes or boots with [soap](#) and water.
2. Starting at the shoulders, roll your protective coverall down your body. Be sure not to touch the outside. Only the inside should be showing by the time it is rolled down to your ankles.
3. Put your coverall in a plastic bag or container, separate from your personal clothing. Put disposable protective clothing in a different container.
4. Remove your shoes or boots and put them in the appropriate container.
5. Rewash your gloves. Then take them off and put them in the appropriate container. Follow your supervisor's instructions on what to do with the containers.
6. Wash your hands with soap and water.
7. Take a shower as soon as possible. Use a lot of soap, and be sure to thoroughly wash your whole body – including your hair. Then put on clean clothes.



**Warning:** If you take your protective clothing home to wash, keep it separate from the family wash. Be sure you have received proper instructions on washing protective clothing.

### Are there any questions?

**Note to trainer:** Take time to answer trainees' questions. Then review the **Protective Clothing Do's and Don'ts**.

## PROTECTIVE CLOTHING DO'S AND DON'TS

### DO:

- Check your protective clothing for tears, holes, leaks or other damage each time you prepare to put it on.
- Wash the outside of your gloves and shoes or boots with soap and water.
- Wear clean protective clothing each day.

### DON'T:

- Store your protective clothing near pesticides or in a dirty place such as a workbench.
- Reuse protective clothing that has been drenched with pesticides.
- Wipe your protective gloves on your clothing.

See our [full line of safety supplies](#), including respirators, eye and ear protection, coveralls, first aid and more.