

Advisory: Personal Protective Equipment:

- Options for Work Clothing
- Disinfection of Footwear or Use of Disposable Boot/Shoe Covers

Applies to: Health & Safety Guidelines for In-Premise and Customer-Facing Energy Efficiency Audits and Upgrades

Applying to: Residential (1-4 Units) Buildings
Commercial & Industrial Buildings
Multifamily Buildings (5+ Units)

Description: The current requirements for Level 2, Level 3, and Alternate Level 3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) include wearing coveralls. The requirements allow that coveralls may be made of any material (e.g., light cotton, cotton blend) as long as they cover the arms, legs, and torso. Any clothing of choice may be worn under the coveralls, including underwear or a tee-shirt and shorts.

In order to improve comfort and safety, while still minimizing the risk of infection to workers and customers, the policy changes listed below are now included in the Health & Safety Guidelines. These new policies include using coveralls, or other outer clothing, as just one of the options for maintaining a clean external body surface as a worker leaves the premises after EE work has been performed. Please note these changes do not affect the requirements for masks, gloves, or eye protection.

This Advisory also adds the requirement for disinfection of footwear or use of shoe covers.

Note: Any disinfectant used should be EPA-registered as being effective against COVID-19 (EPA List N). For more information on EPA-registered disinfectants, see [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\)](#)

Guidelines for Working in Single-Family Homes, Single Dwelling of a Multi-Family Building, or Single-Tenant Commercial Building

1. Workers should wear fresh, clean clothing of their choice, or as specified by their employer, for entry into a home, residential building, or commercial building and for gaining access to the work area through a living or occupied space. The work area may either be in the living or occupied space, or in an unoccupied space (e.g., an attic). Boots/shoes must be disinfected, or fresh shoe covers must be put on prior to entry.
2. Fresh, clean coveralls are an option for entering the home, residential building, or commercial building if the worker chooses to use them later for exiting the building
3. The customer should be advised to remain as far apart as possible (at least 6 feet) from the workers. If the customer or other occupants remain in an area adjacent to the work area or the area which workers use for access, they should be advised to wear a cloth or dust mask.
4. Upon entering any work area, the work surfaces should immediately be disinfected.

5. The choice of clothing worn while working is left to the discretion of the worker or should conform to employer requirements. If workers so choose, they may remove coveralls or other outer clothing and place them in a clean container or bag for use later.
6. Workers should attempt to maintain at least 6 feet distance from one another.
7. If working in an attic or other space separate from the living or occupied space where passive or active ventilation is being used to reduce temperature, the entrance to the space (e.g., pull-down stairs) may remain open to the living or occupied space, provided the workspace remains negatively or neutrally pressurized with respect to the living or occupied space. Examples are:
 - An exhaust fan is placed next to a gable vent to draw air out of an attic work area, causing air to move only into the work area from the living area and not in the other direction (negatively pressurized).
 - No exhaust fan or other air mover is used, resulting in only passive air movement between the work area and living area (neutrally pressurized).
8. Before exiting the work area through a living or occupied space, workers should do one of the following:
 - Put on the fresh, clean coveralls or other clothing that was stored upon entry.
 - Wipe down their work clothing and any exposed skin with a disinfectant.
9. Boots/shoes should be disinfected, or fresh shoe covers put on before exiting.
10. Workers may then exit through the living or occupied space to the outdoors. This includes leaving for breaks and for getting disinfected items from their vehicle.
11. Workers may reenter the home or building following the same route as used initially.
12. Upon completion of the job and before exiting, the work surfaces should be disinfected. Steps 8, 9, and 10 should then be followed.

Guidelines for Working in Living or Occupied Spaces in Different Dwellings of a Multi-Family Building or Multi-Tenant Commercial Building

1. The Guidelines for working in living or occupied spaces in multiple dwellings or commercial/retail tenant spaces during a single work period are essentially the same as those Guidelines listed above.
2. The following are differences from those Guidelines. They are designed to minimize the potential for spreading infection as workers move from work space to work space:
 - When work is completed in each dwelling or work space, workers should lightly spray or wipe down their external clothing and exposed skin with a disinfectant. Boots/shoes should be disinfected, or fresh shoe covers put on before entering the next unit or work space.
 - Before beginning work in each unit or work space, new tight-fitting gloves must be donned, and work gloves must be disinfected.
 - Masks do not need to be changed for each new unit or work space, unless a mask has become soiled, damaged, or is suspected of being contaminated.