

# HOODS

## User Information Guide

### Protective Hoods for Structural Fire Fighting (NFPA 1971)

ONLY THE END USER SHALL REMOVE THIS INFORMATION PRIOR TO USING THIS HOOD

#### DANGER

YOU MAY DIE OR SUSTAIN SERIOUS INJURY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE SPECIAL TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE TO CORRECTLY USE THESE PRODUCTS AND/OR HAVE NOT READ THIS USER GUIDE. IF YOU WERE NOT GIVEN A COMPLETE GUIDE OR LOSE YOUR USER GUIDE, ALERT YOUR ORGANIZATION OR CONTACT HONEYWELL FOR A REPLACEMENT.

- DO NOT USE THIS PROTECTIVE HOOD IF YOU HAVE NOT READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS GUIDE AND THE LABEL ON YOUR HOOD, AND YOU HAVE NOT BEEN PROPERLY TRAINED AND SUPERVISED IN ITS USE.
- THIS HOOD AND ANY OTHER HOOD WILL NOT PROTECT YOU FROM ALL HAZARDS UNDER ALL CONDITIONS.
- THIS HOOD MUST BE WORN AS PART OF A COMPLETE PROTECTIVE ENSEMBLE; IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR DEPARTMENT TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY OF THIS HOOD FOR ITS INTENDED USE AND WHEN THIS HOOD MUST BE WORN TOGETHER WITH OTHER ENSEMBLE ELEMENTS AND TO ENSURE THAT THE SELECTED ENSEMBLE ELEMENTS WORK TOGETHER TO PROVIDED THE INTENDED PROTECTION.
- YOU MUST PROPERLY INSPECT, CARE FOR, AND MAINTAIN THIS HOOD ACCORDING TO THIS GUIDE IN ORDER FOR THE HOOD TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION.

Sizing Chart for the MaskMate™ Hood with STEDAIR® PREVENT

Hat Size	Inches	Centimeters	Size
6 3/8 - 7 3/8	20.0 - 23.2	50.1 - 57.9	Universal
7 1/2	23.6 - 23.75	58.9 - 59.5	Universal or XL
7 5/8 - 8	24.0 - 25.0	59.9 - 62.5	XL

# Honeywell

# User Information Guide – Protective Hoods for Structural Fire Fighting

## Introduction

Your protective hood is intended to provide limited protection to your head and neck as an interface device of a properly selected and configured protective ensemble during structural fire fighting and related emergency response activities. Some Honeywell protective hoods are certified to the new optional particulate blocking protection requirements are intended to also attenuate your exposure to smoke particles on the fireground. While your protective hood is designed to provide protection against a number of fireground hazards, **your protective hood will not protect you against all exposures and under all conditions**, even when worn properly.

This user information guide provides information and instructions related to the selection, use, care, and maintenance of your protective hood. However, this guide does not tell you when and under what circumstances you should wear your protective hood. Rather, this guide tells you how to wear your protective hood and provides an understanding of the limitations of your hood in how it may or may not protect you. Determining the suitability of your protective hood for specific emergency operations rests with your department or employer, who has the legal responsibility to conduct a hazard assessment and decide if your protective hood provides appropriate protection against identified hazards.

**While this guide provides you basic information to adequately care for and maintain your protective hood, there certain additional procedures – such as advanced inspection, advanced cleaning, decontamination, and retirement – that should be performed only by trained and qualified personnel. Information and instructions for these additional procedures are provided on our website. Go to [www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com](http://www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com).**

## Pre-use Information

**General Construction and Features** – Your hood has been manufactured to comply with and is certified to NFPA 1971, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*. Honeywell protective hoods are primarily constructed of knit materials that cover the wearer's head and neck; they include a face opening designed to fit around the facepiece of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and a bib that extends down the body on the sides, front, and back of the wearer's upper torso. The length of the bib depends on the specific hood model. Descriptions of the available types of materials and specific features are provided on the Honeywell website at [www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com](http://www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com). Click "PRODUCTS" and then select "Hoods." Alternatively, click on "LITERATURE" to view the product brochure.

### Safety Considerations and Limitations of Use

– It is critically important that you do not use this protective hood until you have read and understood this entire guide and the labels provided on your protective hood. In order to reduce – but not eliminate – your risks, do not wear this protective hood unless:

- **You Understand Labels, This Guide, and Applicable Standards:** You have read, fully understood, and strictly follow this guide and all labels for this hood; the NFPA standards listed on the hood certification label; and applicable national, state/provincial, and local regulations pertinent to emergency operations.
- **Your Use is In Accordance with Applicable Standards and Regulations:** Your use of this protective hood is consistent with NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program* and Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations Part 1910.132, General Requirements of Subpart I, "Personal Protective Equipment," and any specific regulations that pertain to your local area.
- **Need for Hazard/Risk Assessment:** Your department, organization, or employer has conducted a hazard/risk assessment and determined that this hood provides an acceptable level of protection for the particular emergency operations consistent with applicable national, state/provincial, and local regulations.
- **Your Hood Is Properly Adjusted:** Your hood must be properly worn to provide protection to portions of your face, head, and neck that are not covered by the SCBA facepiece, coat collar, and helmet.
- **Limitations of Protection:** You have been trained and understand that not all hoods provide protection from all hazards, and you have been trained and understand how to select and properly use the appropriate hood to meet the expected exposure.
- **Heat Stress:** Wearing your protective hood together with other ensemble elements may increase your risk of heat stress which may cause heart attack, stroke, dehydration, or other health-related conditions. At the first sign of heat stress, immediately seek medical help.
- **Burn Injury:** Your protective hood will not protect you from all burns and injuries. If your protective hood is exposed to radiant, convective, or conductive heat, or comes in contact with a hot environment or hot object, you may be burned underneath the protective hood with no warning and no sign of damage to the protective hood.
- **Heat Sensation:** Your protective hood will lower your ability to feel heat. Do not be misled by the absence of heat or discomfort underneath your protective hood. Even though you do not feel heat or discomfort, you can be burned or injured suddenly and without warning. If you feel heat or some slight discomfort or unusual sensation under your protective hood, you may already have been burned or are about to be burned. Be constantly alert to the possibility of exposure to heat and other hazards.
- **Barrier Protection:** If not equipped with a moisture barrier material, your protective hood will not provide liquid integrity to your head, face, and neck area. Water and other liquids may enter openings in the interfaces between the hood and other ensemble elements. Hoods without moisture barrier materials offer no protection from liquid exposure and thus will not protect you from chemical, radiological, or biological hazards which can cause death, injuries, diseases, and/or illnesses. Furthermore, the hood does not offer any protection from hazardous vapors or gases, liquefied gases, or cryogenic liquids.
- **Particulate Protection:** If your hood has also been certified to the optional particulate blocking protection requirements, the portions of the hood that contain a particulate blocking layer will attenuate some exposure to smoke particles and solids but not completely prevent all exposure to airborne hazards, especially fire gases, vapors, and some types of liquids.
- **Other Hazards:** Your protective hood – wet or dry – may not protect you from electrical shock. Your protective hood will not protect you from all physical hazards. Your protective hood may be penetrated, cut, or torn by sharp surfaces or objects. Do not use your protective hood if contaminated, cut, punctured, worn, abraded, or altered from its original condition.
- **Need for Complete Ensemble:** This hood is effective only when properly worn, accounting for a proper interface with your garment, helmet, and SCBA facepiece; is part of a complete ensemble that includes appropriate elements for your overall protection; and is consistent with your organization/department's hazard and risk assessment.
- **Proper Care and Maintenance:** This hood must be properly inspected, maintained, and cared for by your department, organization, or employer consistent with these instructions and applicable national, state/provincial, and local regulations, and is free of soiling, contamination, damage, and any alteration that would compromise the protection it provides in its original condition. Damage and contamination of this hood may warrant its disposal.
- **Warranty:** This hood is NOT warranted to be fit for a particular purpose. Read carefully the "Warranty Information" at the end of this guide. If the label in the hood is missing or becomes unreadable, contact Honeywell for instructions for how to obtain a copy of the label information.

**Marking Recommendations** – Do not attempt to alter or modify your hood. For identification purposes, you may mark your protective hood on the bib in areas that are not exposed during normal wearing using an indelible marker, if permitted by your department or organization. Do not write over or obscure information on the product label.

**Testing and Assessment of Performance** – Representative samples of your protective hood have been evaluated for a number of performance properties that include opening size

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retention, thermal protective performance, flame resistance, heat and thermal shrinkage resistance, thread melting and physical strength. None of these performance properties can be evaluated in the field, so if you have questions, check with your department or organization, which in turn can contact Honeywell.

### Preparation for Use

**Sizing and Adjustment** – All Honeywell protective hoods are offered in a single size unless custom made. The PR Hood is available in four different sizes ranging from small to X-Large. Refer to the chart provided on the first page of this guide to select the appropriate size. Follow the donning instructions provided in the next section to ensure correct wearing of your protective hood. Some hoods, which use a garment-like composite, do provide adjustment based on the front neck closure and are fitted for a specific SCBA facepiece.

**Recommended Storage Practices** – Store your hood only when it is clean, dry, and free of contamination. Storing wet hoods will promote growth of mildew, fungus, bacteria, or other harmful substances with the potential to cause skin irritation, rashes, and diseases and/or illnesses. Wet conditions can also lead to deterioration of hood materials. Keep hoods away from potential contaminants such as oils, greases, or other chemical substances. Store your hood in a dry, clean, ventilated area away from direct sunlight and away from tools or other sharp objects. Do not store your hood with the face opening in tension. Do not store your hood with your personal belongings or in a personal living area. Do not store your hood in the pocket of your protective coat or pants as this may lead to damage and contamination.

### Inspection Details and Frequency

**Routine Inspections** – Inspect your protective hood prior to its first use and following every use. Prior to using the hood for the first time, ensure that the hood does not have any construction flaws or was damaged when being put into service. Following every use, inspect your protective hood for:

- soiling
- contamination
- physical damage such as rips, tears, and cuts
- thermal damage such as charring, burn holes, melting, and discoloration of any layer.
- specific damage to the moisture barrier or particulate blocking layer that affect integrity

Some Honeywell protective hoods have an inspection opening to facilitate the inspection of the moisture barrier or particulate blocking layer. Also inspect the seams of your protective hood to ensure that there are no broken or missing stitches or fraying of the hood.

Examine your protective hood to assess whether the face opening is still elastic and has not become overextended (the face opening of your protective hood should continue to fit tightly around your SCBA facepiece each time you wear it). If these conditions exist, alert the supervisor for your department or organization and request a determination on the continued serviceability of your protective hood.

**Advanced Inspections** – Your protective hood must be subjected to a more thorough inspection at least every 12 months, after every advanced cleaning, or whenever there is a concern about its condition for continued service. This inspection must be carried out by an individual within your department or organization who has been trained in advanced inspections or by a qualified and accepted independent service provider.

### Wearing Instructions

**Donning** – Use the following steps for putting on your hood:

1. Place your protective hood over your head with the face opening over your face; push your head through the face opening of the hood so that the hood is around your neck with the face opening forward.
2. Ensure that the bib portion of your protective hood lies flat on your shoulders and upper body and is positioned so that it will remain under your protective garment when the collar is properly secured in accordance with the garment manufacturer's instructions.
3. Put on the SCBA facepiece and adjust the straps for correct wearing in accordance with the SCBA manufacturer's instructions.
4. Pull the hood up and over the back of your head, covering the SCBA facepiece straps.
5. Position the facepiece opening of your protective hood so that it covers all areas of your head and face not covered by the SCBA facepiece.
6. Put on and adjust your helmet according to the helmet manufacturer's instructions, ensuring that positioning of the helmet does not create openings in the protective hood's coverage of your face and head.

**Adjustment for Fit and Interface Issues** – Your protective hood must fit properly and not interfere with other ensemble elements to ensure your proper protection. The hood should overlap all portions of your SCBA facepiece, but it should not obscure your vision through the SCBA facepiece lens. Your protective hood should not interfere with the SCBA facepiece-to-face seal. The additional material over your head will require that your protective helmet be adjusted accordingly to remain secure on your head. The bib portions of your protective hood must be tucked in underneath the collar and top of your protective garment so that the bib does not pull out during use. If your hood does not remain tucked in, alert your supervisor that you may need a hood with a longer bib.

**Doffing** – If your protective hood is not contaminated

1. Remove your helmet first according to the helmet manufacturer's instructions.
2. Pull the face opening area of your protective hood away from your SCBA facepiece and down onto your neck, such that your head protrudes from the protective hood face opening.
3. Remove your SCBA facepiece according to the SCBA manufacturer's instructions.
4. Remove your protective hood from your head by pulling your hood over your head and out from under your protective garment.
5. Inspect your hood as indicated in the instructions above.

If your protective hood has become contaminated with blood, body fluids, chemicals, or other hazardous substances, use extreme caution in removing your hood and do not contact the surface of your hood with your bare hands. Seek assistance in removing your hood and other parts of your ensemble to minimize your exposure to any contaminants. Any damage or change in condition must be corrected before you reuse your hood.

### Care and Maintenance Instructions

**Importance of Clean and Maintained Hoods** – It is important that you keep your protective hood clean, free of contamination, and properly maintained at all times. Protective hoods that are dirty or contaminated pose significant hazards. The wearing of soiled or contaminated clothing can cause acute or long-term health hazards. The close fitting nature of the hood directly on your skin can further increase your exposure to contaminants, particularly if you do not clean your hood regularly. Many contaminants can be absorbed by the skin and some are carcinogenic. In addition, many types of contaminants are flammable. Protective hoods that are soiled do not provide adequate protective performance. Refer to NFPA 1851, *Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting* for additional guidance. However, the instructions provided by Honeywell First Responder Products in this guide take precedence over any requirements specified in NFPA 1851.

**Cleaning Precautions** – Improper cleaning can severely damage protective hoods. In cleaning your protective hood:

- Use only mild detergents with a pH range of not less than 6.0 pH and not greater than 10.5 pH as indicated on the product's material safety data sheet (MSDS) or original container. Do not use detergents or cleaning agents that are not approved by Honeywell.
- Never use solvent or chlorine bleach or cleaning agents that contain chlorine bleach. These substances rapidly break down hood materials.

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- Do not use wash water or drying temperatures above 105°F (40°C).
- Wear protective gloves and eye/face splash protection when cleaning soiled items.
- Do not wash your protective hoods or other protective clothing with personal items, in your personal laundry, or at a laundromat.
- Do not dry clean your protective hood.

**Routine Cleaning** – Clean your protective hood after each use or whenever your hood becomes soiled. Use the following procedures for routine cleaning by hand of your protective hood in a utility sink:

1. Choose a utility sink that is specifically used for cleaning of protective clothing; do not use a kitchen sink or other sink that is employed for personal products.
2. Brush off any loose debris.
3. Pre-treat heavily soiled or spotted areas.
4. Fill the utility sink with warm water.
5. Use a mild detergent in volume according to the detergent supplier's instructions.
6. Scrub the hood gently using a soft-bristle brush. Use only a soft-bristle brush, as stiff brushes will snag and damage the hood.
7. Drain the sink and thoroughly rinse the hood. Conduct a second rinse if necessary.
8. Inspect the hood and, where necessary, rewash the protective hood or submit it for advanced cleaning procedures.
9. Air-dry the hood by hanging it in a well-ventilated area, but not in direct sunlight.
10. Rinse the utility sink using routine cleaning procedures.

**Optional Machine Cleaning** – Washing machines and dryers may be used, but only under special conditions. If washing with protective garments, wash your protective hood with only the liners of your protective garments. Do not wash your hood with garment outer shells, as the hardware and hook/loop closure tape will damage your hood. Use the following procedures if machine washing and drying:

1. Choose a washing machine that is used for cleaning protective clothing. While top-loading machines may be used, front-loading washers/ extractors are preferred, as these machines are less likely to physically damage clothing and can be programmed for specific water levels, temperatures, and times.
2. Brush off any loose debris.
3. Pre-treat heavily soiled or spotted areas.
4. Unless otherwise instructed, load machine to 80% of its rated capacity. Overloading will result in inefficient cleaning.
5. Use mild wash settings, a mild detergent, and warm water temperatures.
6. Following washing, remove the hood from the washing machine and air-dry it by hanging it in a well-ventilated area but not in direct sunlight, or put it in a dryer on a no-heat or low-heat setting.
7. Inspect the hood and, where necessary, rewash the hood or submit it for advanced cleaning procedures.

**Advanced Cleaning** – Your protective hood must be subjected to an advanced cleaning at least every 12 months at the time of advanced inspection or whenever soiling requires additional cleaning. Advanced cleaning must be performed by persons qualified by your department or organization.

**Decontamination** – Proper decontamination of your protective hood will depend on the type and extent of contamination. If your protective hood becomes contaminated with blood or body fluids, immediately isolate the hood and inform your supervisor, department, or organization. Your protective hood must be subjected to **sanitization** and advanced cleaning using specialized procedures.

If your protective hood becomes contaminated with chemicals or other hazardous substances, immediately isolate your hood and remove it from service, taking care not to cross-contaminate other clothing items. Immediately inform your supervisor, department, or organization. Do not wear a protective hood that was contaminated until verification has been provided that your protective hood is free from contamination.

**Repairs** – Do not attempt to repair your hood. If damaged, report the damage to your supervisor, department, or organization and obtain a new hood as a replacement. Your protective hood must be repaired only by Honeywell or an organization that has been qualified by Honeywell First Responder Products.

## Retirement and Disposal

The decision for the continued service of your protective hood must be made by a qualified individual within your department or organization. If you have any doubts about your protective hood and its condition, immediately bring this matter to the attention of your supervisor, department, or organization. Protective hoods that are no longer deemed serviceable for reasons of damage, contamination, or other unsafe condition must be disposed of in a fashion (such as cutting it in pieces) whereby the protective hood cannot be reused. Contaminated hoods must be disposed of by your department or organization in accordance with federal, state/provincial, or local regulations.

If you are burned or injured while you are wearing your protective hood, your protective hood must be removed from service and retained by your department or organization for an appropriate period as determined by your department or organization.

## Warranty

Honeywell warrants that all first responder protective hoods are free from defects in material and workmanship for the useful life of the product. This warranty specifically excludes accidental damage (acid, tears on nails, etc.), intentional or unintentional abuse, natural disasters, damage caused by disregard of care instructions, and normal wear. THESE WARRANTIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER WRITTEN, EXPRESS, IMPLIED, STATUTORY, OR OTHERWISE. A full warranty statement can be found at [www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com](http://www.HoneywellFirstResponder.com).

## Contact Information

If you have questions or require more information, contact Honeywell First Responder Products.



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