

# It's NOT What You Think!

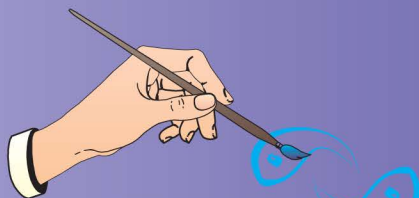
# N95

## MYTH: v/s FACT:



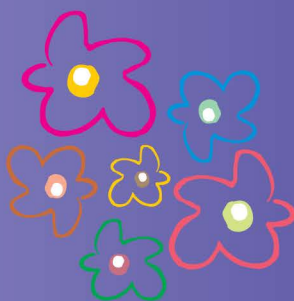
### MYTH:

An N95 respirator and a surgical mask provide the same protection.



### MYTH:

I can decorate my N95 respirator to look stylish!



### MYTH:

There's no way to verify if an N95 respirator is actually NIOSH-approved.



### FACT:

A NIOSH-approved N95 respirator forms a seal against the user's face, preventing particle penetration around the edges. The filter has passed NIOSH tests to determine that it protects against at least 95% of airborne particles.

Because surgical masks do not seal against the face and the filters have not been tested, the same level of protection against airborne particles cannot be guaranteed.

### FACT:

Any alteration of the N95 will void the NIOSH approval because respirator can no longer be guaranteed to provide the necessary level of protection.



### FACT:



A list of approved N95 respirators is updated every month. Find it at [Knowits.niosh.gov](http://Knowits.niosh.gov) under the "Approved Particulate Filtering Facepiece Respirators" tab.

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