



HOOD CARE 101

6 STEPS TO KEEP IT CLEAN

// REFLEX 3A PARTICULATE BARRIER HOOD

PROTECTIVE HOOD FOR STRUCTURAL FIRE FIGHTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH NFPA 1971-2018



Ricochet is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and has more than 25 years of experience producing sophisticated, high-tech gear for the rigorous and specialized needs of the military, industrial chemical workers and emergency first responders.

For more information, visit our website at ricochet-gear.com/page/care-and-use



The fire service acknowledges the importance of clean PPE in ensuring your safety. According to NFPA 1851, it's essential to inspect your gear after each use to identify any damage and decide the appropriate cleaning method. This includes guidelines for "preliminary exposure reduction" at the scene and mandates advanced cleaning at least twice a year or whenever on-scene cleaning is inadequate. While we highly recommend reviewing the full guidelines in NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural and Proximity Fire Fighting, here are some helpful steps for cleaning your Reflex 3A Particulate Barrier Hood.

1 // CLEAN ON SITE



Always perform preliminary exposure reduction on scene by gently brushing off any loose debris from your hood. Should any debris or materials be adhered to the components or fabric of the hood, remove the hood from service until it can be subjected to a deeper cleaning.

2 // PROTECT + INSPECT



Wear exam gloves and eye protection during the inspection process to protect yourself from any loose debris. Any physical damage will need to be addressed before the hood is returned to service.

3 // PRETREAT + WASH



Hoods can be hand or machine washed. If necessary, pretreat heavily soiled areas before laundering. To hand wash hoods, use a utility sink or other suitable container and allow the hood to presoak for at least 10 minutes. Lightly rub the hood material together, starting with the exterior and then turning the hood inside out. Avoid stretching or wringing the hood out; hoods should be slightly squeezed to remove excess water after washing. If hoods are machine laundered, the machine should be a washer/extractor that is programmable to permit multiple formulations for adjustments of detergent application, water temperature, water level, cycle type/function, and cycle time. The washer/extractor g-force must not exceed 100G. Whether hand or machine washing, use a mild detergent with a pH range of not less than 6.0 and not greater than 10.5 and a wash water temperature that is not higher than 105°F. Do not use Chlorine Bleach. Hoods should be thoroughly rinsed after washing.

4 // CHECK-IN



Once the hood has been washed, inspect it to ensure it is clean. If necessary, repeat Step 3.

5 // DRYING TO LAST



NFPA 1851 requires that protective elements be dried out of direct or indirect lighting, especially sunlight. If machine drying hoods, tumble dry on "no heat" or lowest possible machine setting, with the basket temperature of the dryer not to exceed 105°F. If air drying, lay the hood on a drying rack or other surface that helps promote draining of water from the hood, again out of direct light.

5 // HANG TO STORE



Store clean hoods in a dry, well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight and away from indoor light sources. Do not store in extreme hot or cold temperatures, nor in airtight containers. If you take care of your gear, it will take care of you.