



When Is Canister for TRAINING ONLY?

Dear Half-Mast,

When should a canister for the M40-series mask be marked TRAINING ONLY? We don't want to mix up good canisters with ones that no longer protect.

SPC J.B.

Dear Specialist,

Good question! It all has to do with expiration dates.

M40/M42 Masks

C2A1 canisters should be no longer be used after their expiration date or one year after the canister has been removed from its sealed container, whichever comes first. The expiration date is marked on the canister can.

Some canisters, however, may have had their expiration dates extended.

To check, go to: <https://jacks.jpocbd.osd.mil/Default.aspx>

Select the Shelf Life Tools tab. If your canister's shelf life hasn't been extended, go by the date on the container.

Once the canister has passed its expiration date or been removed from its container for more than a year, it should be discarded or marked TRAINING USE ONLY in letters large enough to be easily seen.

M50/M51 Masks

The M61 canister for the M50/M51 has the same standards as those for the M40/M42. But you should also pay attention to their time patches.

If the canister time patch turns blue, that signals humidity has degraded the canister. The canister should be discarded or marked TRAINING USE ONLY.

If you have questions, contact TACOM's Individual Protection Team:

usarmy.detroit.tacom.mbx.ilsc-masks@mail.mil



If M61 time patch turns blue, replace canister

Half-Mast