



↳ What to do if a Dirty Bomb Explodes

A dirty bomb is not the same as an atomic or nuclear bomb. A dirty bomb is a mix of explosives with radioactive powder or pellets. The blast from the explosives carries radioactive materials into nearby areas. The main danger is the explosion.

These are effective, proven steps you can take to protect yourself:

- If you are outside, cover your mouth and nose with a cloth, so you don't breathe in radioactive dust. Go indoors and stay there.
- If you are in your car, close the windows and turn off the air conditioner, heater and vents. Cover your mouth with a cloth. Go indoors, if possible, and stay there.
- Stay inside unless you are told by officials to leave.
- Close the windows, turn off heat or air conditioning, and stay near the center of the building or go to the basement.
- Tune to local broadcasts for instructions from officials.

- Quickly decontaminate by removing clothes and:
 - To prevent further exposure to eyes, nose, and mouth, cut off clothes that would usually be pulled over your head.
 - Put clothes and jewelry in a plastic bag and seal, if possible.

- Rinse your body and hair thoroughly with water.

It is important to take these steps as soon as possible. Decontaminating is the most effective way of protecting yourself from the health effects of a nerve agent.

- Be sure to decontaminate pets that may have been exposed, as well.

- If you were near the site and injured, get medical attention.

- Do not eat any fresh food products that may be contaminated with radiation particles.

↘ For More Information

This information is provided by the local governments, businesses and nonprofits of the National Capital Region. Visit www.makeaplan.org. More information is also available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov



For more information
www.makeaplan.org

Brought to you by the communities of the National Capital Region