TOP 5
DO'S & DON'TS

PPE inspection and cleaning is critical to keep your turnout gear fit for duty.
Be sure to follow these crucial tips when inspecting and cleaning your gear.

TURNOUT GEAR INSPECTION

DO	DON'T
Have an Advanced Inspection performed by trained team members, a verified ISP or a manufacturer every 12 months at a minimum.	Simply have a buddy take a look at your gear if you suspect a problem.
Conduct Inspections on clean gear ONLY (Accumulated soil hides gear damage).	Forget that accumulated soil can cover up gear damage, like rips or holes.
Check each layer, trim and other components for physical damage, integrity, functionality or loss and reduction in performance properties.	Use "how the gear feels" when wearing to gauge if gear is performing properly.
Perform a Moisture Barrier test on liner systems less than 3 years old, gear that is over three years old should have a complete liner inspection.	Disregard a regular inspection of your gear because 'it's supposed to last 10 years'.
Have all damage repaired by an ISP or your PPE manufacturer.	Think that dirty gear is a sign of an active firefighter.

TURNOUT GEAR CLEANING

DO	DON'T
Have an Advanced Cleaning performed by trained team members, a verified ISP or a manufacturer at the time of the Advanced Inspection.	Ignore soiling and contamination.
If you suspect contamination, or cannot remove soil with routine cleaning, follow your department's guidelines to request Advanced Cleaning.	Send gear to a dry cleaner, use in a home washer, or public laundry.
Separate the layers so that they can be cleaned individually.	Ignore taking gear apart because 'it's too hard to put back together'.
Use mild PPE cleaning products within a pH range of 6.0 and 10.5, in accordance with label instructions.	Use petroleum-based degreasers or chlorine bleach and ignore dosage instructions on labels of acceptable cleaning products
Dry in a well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight and at an ambient temperature.	Hang gear in direct sunlight or use high setting of mechanical dryer.

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