



# Using a Bag-Valve-Mask (BVM) — Adult/Child/Infant

## Skill Sheet

BLS	OT	AM	FR	EMR	AFA	MAFA
✓			✓	✓	✓	✓

Participants may not need to demonstrate skills for all age groups. The learning objectives for each course indicate the applicable content.

### Steps

#### Ensure you are always wearing proper PPE before performing the skill.

1. Select the correct size of BVM.
2. Attach the BVM to supplemental oxygen (if available).

#### TWO RESPONDERS

Responder A:

1. Position yourself by the patient's head, facing the chest.
2. Open the airway and seal the mask:
  - a) Place thumbs on each side of the mask, toward the chest, and apply downward pressure.
  - b) Place fingers of both hands along the patient's mandible.
  - c) Open the airway using head-tilt/chin-lift or jaw thrust .

Responder B — provide ventilations:

1. Squeeze bag smoothly just until the chest starts to rise.
2. Watch the chest to see if air is going in.
3. Recheck the pulse and breathing after two minutes and every two minutes thereafter.

#### SINGLE RESPONDER

1. Position yourself by the patient's head, facing the chest.
2. Position the mask.
3. Seal the mask:
  - a) Make a "C" with your thumb and index finger to maintain the seal.
  - b) Place the other three fingers of the same hand along the patient's cheek, with your fingertips hooked under the mandible to maintain the angle of the head.
4. Open the airway using head-tilt/chin-lift or jaw thrust.
5. Provide ventilations:
  - a) With the free hand, squeeze the bag smoothly just until the chest starts to rise.
  - b) Watch the chest to see if air is going in.
  - c) Recheck the pulse and breathing after two minutes and every two minutes thereafter.



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Organizational/local protocol for \_\_\_\_\_ :

### Skill Notes

- A bag-valve-mask (BVM) is indicated for a patient in respiratory arrest, or a patient whose respiratory rate is too low or too high.
- A BVM is best used by two responders.
- If you are using a BVM without a partner, you must maintain the mask seal with one hand, monitor the airway, and simultaneously provide ventilations with your other hand.
- Some BVMs are designed specifically for children and infants. These BVMs also include a valve that prevents over inflation of the lungs.
- When using a BVM on a non-breathing patient, ensure that the patient's airway is open. Inserting an airway adjunct as soon as possible will assist in maintaining the patient's airway.