

'Invisible' air filter that you stick up your NOSE blocks 90% of pollution particles, allergens and bacteria

- The O2 Nose Filter costs \$13 (£10) for a pack of ten and is 'almost invisible'
- It blocks 90% of large pollution particles and 70% of finer particles
- It could help tackle the effects of the pollution crisis that plagues modern cities

By [HARRY PETTIT FOR MAILONLINE](#) 

PUBLISHED: 10:29, 20 November 2018 | **UPDATED:** 15:52, 20 November 2018



Share



168
shares

 **71**

[View comments](#)

A pollution filter that you jam up your nose has been invented by US engineers.

The O2 Nose Filter sits in your nostrils and blocks 90 per cent of large pollution particles and 70 per cent of finer particles from entering the lungs.

Largely sold in the US, the device costs \$13 (£10) for a pack of ten and is 'almost invisible', providing a more discreet form of protection than a filter face mask.

It could help tackle the effects of the pollution crisis that plagues modern cities, with dirty air now thought to kill around nine million people per year worldwide.



A pollution filter that you stick up your nose has been invented by US engineers. The O2 Nose Filter sits in your nostrils and blocks 90 per cent of large pollution particles and 70 per cent of finer particles from entering the lungs

'O2 nose filters create a safer, cleaner personal air zone with protection from airborne pollution, allergens, bacteria and more,' its creators say on their website.

'They make your cities safer, making air travel cleaner and keeping your body away from harm.'

Each filter can be worn for up to 12 hours and uses electrostatic filters to capture air particulates and more.

But unlike face masks, the nose filter will not stop pollutants from entering the lungs through your mouth.

Air pollution is an increasing concern among urban residents, and a host of recent research has revealed the shocking effects pollutants have on our health.

A report on Monday claimed that people around the world are losing more than a year of their lives to air pollution.



Largely sold in the US, the device costs \$13 (£10) for a pack of ten and is 'almost invisible', providing a more discreet form of protection than a filter face mask

The study from the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) found that pollution takes an average of 1.8 years of people's lives around the globe.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) released guidelines over a decade ago suggesting maximum 'healthy' levels of air pollution.

But as of right now, almost every low- and middle-income country and half of high income ones are 'unhealthy.'

The effects of pollution are most devastating in the most crowded cities in the most populous countries - India and China.

Americans, too, would live longer if the country complied with the World Health Organisation's pollution recommendations, but have managed to get back about a year and a half of life expectancy thanks to clean air policies, the new report found.



The filter's creators aim to help tackle the pollution crisis that plagues modern cities, with dirty air now thought to kill around nine million people per year worldwide. Pictured is smog over London's skyline

WHAT IS THE AIR QUALITY INDEX?

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a measure used by environmental agencies and other public bodies around the world to measure how clean the air is.

The lower the index is, the better the quality of the air.

The AQI provides a number which is easy to compare between different pollutants, locations, and time periods.

Exactly how this score is categorised varies from country to country, but each category in the AQI corresponds to a different level of health risk.

The daily results of the index are used to convey to the public an estimate of air pollution level.

AQI	Pollution Level	Health Implications
0 - 50	Good	Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk
51 - 100	Moderate	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
101 - 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.
151 - 200	Unhealthy	Everyone may begin to experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects
201 - 300	Very Unhealthy	Health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is more likely to be affected.
300+	Hazardous	Health alert: everyone may experience more serious health effects

The AQI provides a number which is easy to compare between different pollutants, locations, and time periods. Exactly how this score is categorised varies from country to country, but each category in the AQI corresponds to a different level of health risk

An increase in air quality index signifies increased air pollution and severe threats to human health.

The AQI centres on the health effects that may be experienced within a few days or hours after breathing polluted air.

AQI calculations focus on major air pollutants including: particulate matter, ground-level ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide.

Particulate matter and ozone pollutants pose the highest risks to human health and the environment.

For each of these air pollutant categories, different countries have their own established air quality indices in relation to other nationally set air quality standards for public health protection.

