

Mask Instructions for Community Use (Not suitable for hospital use)

Note of Caution:

These masks are for general use only when you absolutely must be outside or go into a public place. They are not suitable for medical use. **They are not respirators and will only assist in keeping contagions away.** They are not foolproof in any way.

Be safe: Nothing will substitute for staying at home, hand washing and social distancing. Flatten the curve!

Materials

Adult size:

2 - 6"x 9" pieces of tightly woven cotton (old, clean sheets work great! (for children: 5" x 7.5"))

1 - 6" x 9" (for children: 5" x 7.5") piece of felt, or other breathable fabric to act as a filter in the center of the mask. Clean, cloth-type shopping bags could work, a Swiffer floor duster

2 pieces of 1/8 - 1/4" elastic cut into 7" lengths (6" for children) or:
2 (new) covered ponytail holders, cut in half at the seam (must be at least 6 inches long), and pull ends to stretch out a bit or:
4 pieces of grosgrain ribbon or bias tape cut into 13" lengths



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For each mask, cut 2 - 6" x 9" pieces of tightly woven fabric. If you are making more than one mask, it may be easier to measure out a large section of 6" x 9" rectangles and cut all at once.

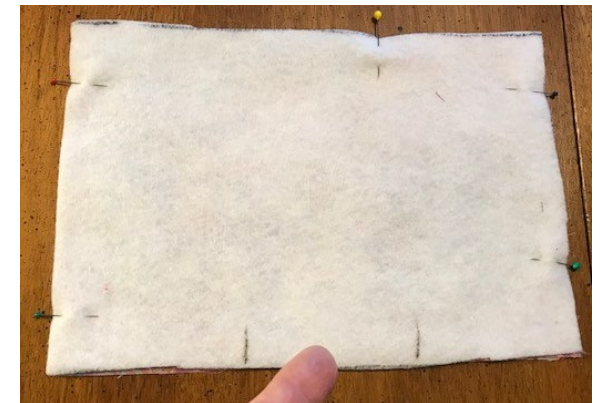
With right sides together, place one piece of fabric on top of the other. Then place the felt or other filter on top of that. See layering in photo.



Pin the elastic or ribbon to the corners of the mask. If you are using covered ponytail holders (I got them from CVS), as I am in the top picture because I'm out of elastic, place ends 1.25" in from the corner so it will fit. If you place it at the corner, it will be too tight!

Ribbon is shown in the second photo. Pin to all corners. When you finish pinning (bottom), be sure that all of the ribbon is in the center inside the mask and doesn't get caught as you sew.

Mark about a 3" opening at the bottom and sew a 1/4" seam all the way around, leaving the opening for turning.



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Clip corners for sharper corners after turning.



Turn the piece so the right side is on outside, through the opening in center back. Pull on elastic or ribbon at corners to fully pull corners out. If you need to, gently push corners with the tip of a pair of closed scissors (be careful not to poke through the fabric).



Here's how it will look after turning with elastic and with ribbon.



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Press entire piece flat.

About 1" from the top of the mask, make a ½" fold, then fold back on itself to make a pleat, as shown.



Pin the pleat and repeat 1" from fold of 1st pleat to make second pleat, as shown. Edge of piece should be about 3 inches when pleated.



Duplicate pleats on the opposite side. Then top stitch around entire piece, twice. This will really secure your elastic or ribbon ties.

Press pleat flat on front and back.



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You're Done!



Front, wear pleats facing down so as not to catch debris.

You may machine wash this mask, but air dry it, so as not to melt the elastic.



Done!