



Multipurpose
Face Mask



PDF Pattern
3 sizes with elastic
loop or ties





Multipurpose Face Mask

This multipurpose face mask design is easy to sew and well suited for protection against dust, pollen, smoke, and germs if you are currently practicing social distancing. While certainly **NOT** a *medical grade mask*, it is made up of 3 layers (2 cotton, 1 nonwoven) and will provide a modest barrier to germs.

This design can be made with elastic loops that stretch around the ears or with ties that fasten around the back of the head and neck. It can be worn on the bare face but is also a nice fit over an N95 respirator mask and will extend its use.

This mask is designed to be machine washed and dried, making it ideal for repeated use.
It is offered in 3 sizes: child, average, and large.

SUPPLY LIST

FABRIC (tightly woven high quality cotton is recommended), prewashed & ironed

Run the pattern of the fabric with the height of the rectangles, if applicable.

Child: (2) 8" w x 6" h rectangles

Average: (2) 9" w x 7" h rectangles

Large: (2) 9 1/2" w x 7 1/2" h rectangles

OPTIONAL FOR TIES: (2) 1" X 36" strips, OR 1/2" cotton twill tape

**Note that it is important to prewash all fabrics to take care of any shrinkage before sewing.*

NONWOVEN LAYER (Pellon 911FF recommended)

Child: 5 1/2" w x 6" h piece

Average: 6 1/2" w x 7" h piece

Large: 7" w x 7 1/2" h piece

OTHER SUPPLIES

Flat Elastic: (2) 10" pieces, 1/4" wide

1— 2" piece 20g wire (1 1/2" piece for child size)

Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat

Wire cutters

Thread, scissors, etc. (basic sewing supplies)

Sewing machine & Serger (an alternate finishing stitch on a regular machine may be substituted if necessary)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Begin by fusing the nonwoven layer to the wrong side of the rectangle that will become the exterior of the mask.
- Center the interfacing from side to side. This will keep the nonwoven layer out of the casings along the sides and reduce bulk.



- To create the pleat, fold each rectangle in half widthwise, right sides together, and stitch 3/8" away from the fold along the upper and lower edges to a depth of about 1".



- Open out the rectangles and flatten the pleat, centering over the seam and press.



- Place the rectangles right sides together with the pleat seams aligned.
- Stitch along the long pleated edges with a 1/4" seam allowance.



- Turn right side out and press.



- Choose one of the pleated sides to be the top edge and edgestitch it.
- Mark 1" (or 3/4" for child size) to either side of the pleat seam for wire placement.



- Stitch along one of the markings through all thicknesses to a depth of 3/8".
- Check the ends of the wire. If it seems sharp, create a small loop with pliers.
- Place the wire in between the two layers on the inside with one end at the stitched marking, close to the top edge seam.



- Stitch down 3/8" on the remaining marking to create the wire channel, then topstitch the edge 3/8" away to complete the wire channel. **Use caution when stitching around the wire as to not hit it with the machine needle!*
- Edgestitch the lower finished edge of the mask.



- Serge the raw side edges.



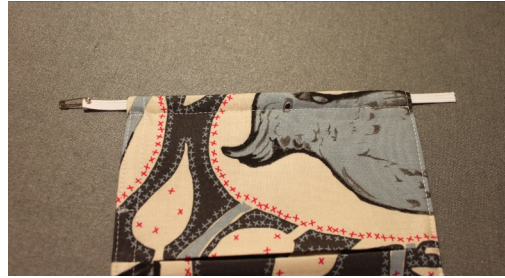
- To form the side casings, fold the serged edges to the interior side of the mask on each side by 1/2" and press.
- Stitch the casings in place with the fold about 3/8" from the stitching.



ELASTIC

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- Insert elastic into the casing and pull through so that there is elastic extending from each end.

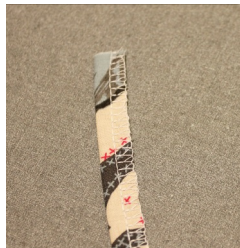


- Grasp both ends of the elastic at once and pull to gather the fabric and provide enough elastic to overlap the ends by 1/4" and zigzag to secure. At this point, I like to pull the elastic band through the casing where it is joined to conceal it.



TIES

- If making ties, fold the 1" strip in half wrong sides together so that it is 1/2" wide and serge the long raw edge side. Press if desired. Repeat for remaining tie.



- Thread the tie through each side of the mask. Because the upper part of the tie will be used to tie around the head, a longer amount will need to extend there.



- Pull up the fabric along the tie to gather the fabric. Knot each end of the ties.



- Try on the mask and adjust for fit. If the ties seem excessively long once tied, shorten and knot them once more.

CARE

To care for the mask, wash and tumble dry warm. Remove from dryer promptly to minimize wrinkles.

Feel free to produce as many masks as desired for donation or sale from this pattern!

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