

How to Make COVID-19 Cloth Face Masks with Elastic

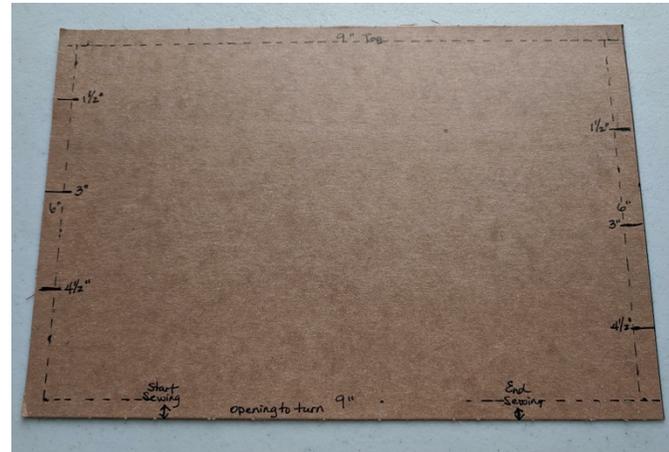
Supplies:

- *Tightly woven cotton or cotton blend fabric, cut into 6 " x 9 " rectangles (1 per mask)
Calico works well, gingham is too lightweight. You should not be able to see through it.
- *Flannel fabric, cut into 6 " x 9 " rectangles (1 per mask)
- ¼ " flat elastic (*1/8" or 3/8" or corded elastic ok*), cut into 7 " pieces (2 pieces per mask)
- Sewing machine (*not a serger*), scissors, iron, pins, thread and seam gauge

***ALTERNATIVE FABRIC PLAN:** The tightly woven cotton fabric can be used for both sides if you don't have flannel. Flannel or thick sheeting is used for the side next to your face for comfort.

Make a Pattern Template – cut a 6" x 9" rectangle out of cardboard or a cereal box. Use it as a guide when you cut the fabric.

Look closely at the picture for other hints about how to make the masks.



Instructions for each mask:

A. Begin with two 6" x 9" rectangles placed right-sides together.

1. Pin one end of the first elastic strip into a corner at an angle (makes it stronger) between the two rectangles. Then pin the other end of that elastic strip, again at an angle, into the other corner of the same 6" side.

NOTE: if you use a small cord elastic, tie a knot in the end so that it doesn't pull through the stitching.

2. Repeat with the second elastic strip on the other 6" side. Check to ensure that both elastic strips are inside the two fabric rectangles and will not be caught in your seam allowances as you sew.



3. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, start sewing about 2 inches from a corner on one long, 9 " side towards the pin in corner. Turn at the corner to the 6 " side.
4. Continue sewing, turning the fabric at each corner.
5. When you are get to the side where you started, only sew that side about 2" from the corner and finish off your seam. This will enable you to turn the fabric right side out through the opening you left unsewn.



- B. Turn the mask inside out and press (Do NOT trim the corners). Ensure that both elastics are free (they will be used over the ears to hold the mask in place). Tuck the edges of the opening inside and pin to hold in place, and iron.



- C. Make 3 equal size tucks on each side of the mask. Fold them toward the bottom, which should be the 9" long side with the opening.

1. On each 6" side mark the tucks with a pin at 1.5 inches, 3 inches, and 4.5 inches. Each tuck should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep.
2. Repeat on the other 6" side and make sure that the tucks are going in the same direction on both sides.



- D. Starting in one corner, top stitch (again with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam) down a "tucked side" towards the long (9 ") side. Continue to top stitch around the entire mask, ensuring that the opening is sewn closed. Then, to strengthen the mask, go over your original top stitching with a second row of stitching.



Your mask is now complete.

Hospitals will wash everything once they arrive. If you are using this mask for yourself, you may want to wash it before wearing.

Take care to only handle the mask on the outside, and be careful to not touch the inside. Wash your hands after removing the mask and wash the mask itself between wearings.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING PROVIDE THESE MASK COVERS!



Sewing CoVid-19 Mask Cover Project is a project of the Bold Women of Lovers Lane UMC, Dallas, TX
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