

How to make a Face Mask with String-Ties that are actually Binding or Bias Tape or possibly even String

Notes before getting started:

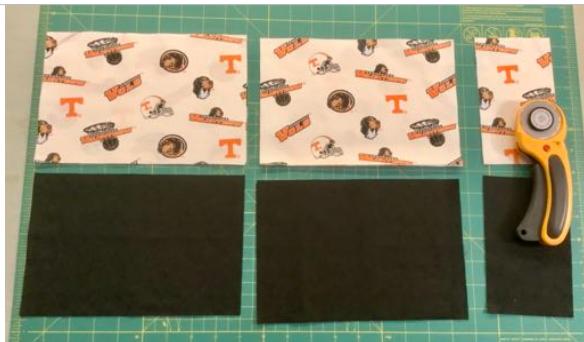
**Make sure you are using 100% cotton fabric!! Flannel is too hot to wear.
PREWASH your fabric in HOT WATER before moving on with the pattern.**



Select your fabric for fabric masks. These directions will cut fabric for 4 masks.

Cut two Width of Fabric (WOF) strips, one light and one dark. Cut them 6" by WOF.

Fold them in half, so you have 2 layers of the mask front fabric (6" x approx. 21"), and 2 layers of the mask back fabric, (also 6" x approx. 21").



Trim off the selvedge edges.

Subcut the strips into two 9" lengths to make 6" x 9" rectangles.

There will also be a couple of inches of fabric left over.



After cutting you will have 4 light 6" x 9" rectangles, and 4 black 6" x 9" rectangles.



To make one mask:
Place rectangles wrong sides together.
Stitch a 1/4-inch seam down both of the
6-inch sides.



Turn inside out. Pin seamed sides. Press.
The top and bottom edges will still be open.



Topstitch 1/2 from edge of mask at sides
only.
The top and bottom edges are, amazingly
enough, still open.



Cut two 2.5 x WOF strips
(2.5" x approx. 41")
The two strips here are folded so they could
squeeze into the picture, but each is 41"
long, I promise, pinky swear.



Hold each strip in half, lengthwise. Press.
NOTE: If you have bias tape on hand, you
can bypass all of these tedious steps, you
lucky dog you :)



Fold raw edges to the middle, using the previously pressed line as a guide. Press.

You can use pins to hold the fabric in place until the strip is ironed, or just finger-press the two edges into place before ironing.



Use pins to mark the center of the fabric strip (or your bias tape) and the mask.



“Nest” the mask inside the binding on one side. This is a good place to use those cute little Wonder clips, but boring old pins also work.

Using a WIDE zig-zag stitch, start stitching at the tail end of one of the strips, and continue the length of the strip, including the section with the mask.



Here's a close view of zig-zagging the binding across the mask.

(By using a wide zig-zag stitch you will create a finished edge on both the front and back of the mask, so nothing is left flapping in the breeze.)

Making pleats: You can make the pleats before you add the binding or after.



I did it both ways, and actually preferred sewing on the binding before making the pleats. Do what floats your seamstress boat.

Anyway, just ballpark the tucks to make the two pleats. After pleated, the side should measure somewhere between 3" wide to 3.5" wide. Pin pleats in place.



Here's a side view just for funzies.

You may have to schooch things around a bit to make sure there aren't pleats literally on top of pleats. That would be pretty impossible to sew through without breaking a needle and/or possibly saying a don't word.



Stitch pleats into place by stitching down the same quarter-inch line you did earlier.

If you want to be extra tidy, stitch a second line just at the mask edge, parallel to the first line.



Tah-Daaah — you're done! Congrats :)



Ready for action. Pray that these little masks will meet big needs.