

To prevent unnecessary deaths and illness, especially of the elderly, people with serious health conditions, and essential workers. The best way to continue to help stop the spread is to stay home. The need to go outside to perform essential tasks, should be minimal. When you do go outside, you must wear a face covering and follow the advice in this Guidance.

Recent studies have shown that a significant portion of individuals with the COVID-19 virus lack symptoms and can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity in many settings. This is primarily to protect people around you if you are infected but do not have symptoms. By preventing the transmission of the virus by people who are asymptomatic, we can quickly reduce the transmission rate.

Types of Appropriate Face Covering to Wear include:

- Homemade face coverings include bandanas, homemade masks, and scarves. Try not to take them on or off once they are put on. Please make sure to wash these masks regularly as they become soiled easily.
 - How to make your own facemask – both sew and no sew methods:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
- These coverings offer limited protection for the person wearing the mask, rather they prevent the wearer of the masks from potentially infecting others. Such face coverings have been shown to significantly reduce the amount of virus carrying droplets or aerosol sprays from a sneeze, a cough, or talking.
- Again, taking the mask on and off is important as taking it off incorrectly could expose the wearer to germs.
 - Face coverings should be removed after washing your hands. Remove them by the ear loops. Do not touch the middle of the mask. Once removed properly clean them with soapy water and allow them to dry.
 - Proper use of gloves and mask being demonstrated:
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2020/mar/31/how-to-correctly-wear-your-coronavirus-face-mask-and-gloves-video>
- Face Coverings should:
 - fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face and cover your nose and mouth
 - be secured with ties or ear loops
 - include multiple layers of fabric
 - allow for breathing without restriction
 - be able to be laundered and dried without damage or change in shape.

There is a shortage in the medical community and all medical grade masks need to be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders.

Face Coverings should be worn whenever you are in public or in any setting where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Face Covering Cautions for Children and People with Health

Conditions. Face coverings or masks should not be placed on children younger than 2 years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering or mask without assistance. **FACE COVERING DO NOT REPLACE SOCIAL DISTANCING. YOU MUST MAINTAIN A 6-FOOT DISTANCE WHILE WEARING A FACE COVERING.**