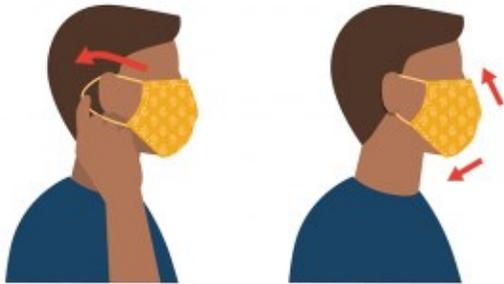


# How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Updated July 6, 2020

**Cloth face coverings are an additional step to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with every day preventive actions and social distancing in public settings.**

**Who should NOT use cloth face coverings:** children under age 2, or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.



**Cloth face coverings are NOT surgical masks or N95 respirators.** Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders.

- Wear your Face Covering Correctly
- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily

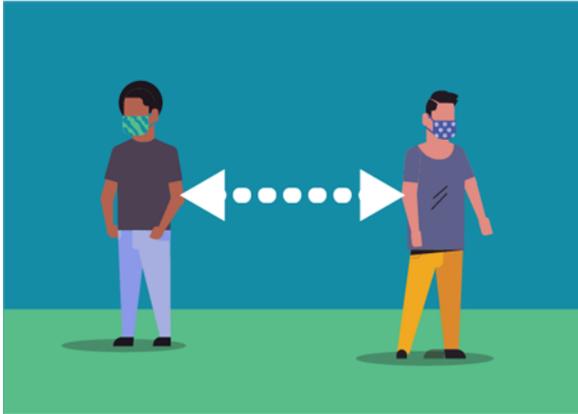
## Wear a Face Covering to Protect Others

- Wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth to help protect others in case you're infected with COVID-19 but don't have symptoms
- Wear a face covering in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart

## Wear a face covering correctly for maximum protection

- **Don't** put the face covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- **Don't** touch the face covering, and, if you do, wash your hands or





## Follow Everyday Health Habits

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available

## Take Off Your Cloth Face Covering Carefully, When You're Home

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine (learn more about [how to wash cloth face coverings](#))
- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing and wash hands immediately after removing.



**COVID-19 Symptoms**  
Help prevent the spread of COVID-19

### You may have COVID-19 if you experience one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- Loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Symptoms range from mild to severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

  
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