

Yield: 1

# DIY Fabric Surgical Mask

Homemade fabric surgical face mask to be worn as a last resort in a crisis situation.

**Prep Time** 5 minutes

**Active Time** 15 minutes

**Total Time** 20 minutes

**Difficulty** Easy

## Materials

- cotton fabric, tightly woven
- 1/8" elastic, or fabric ties

## Tools

- sewing machine and thread
- scissors
- ruler
- sewing pins or clips

## Instructions

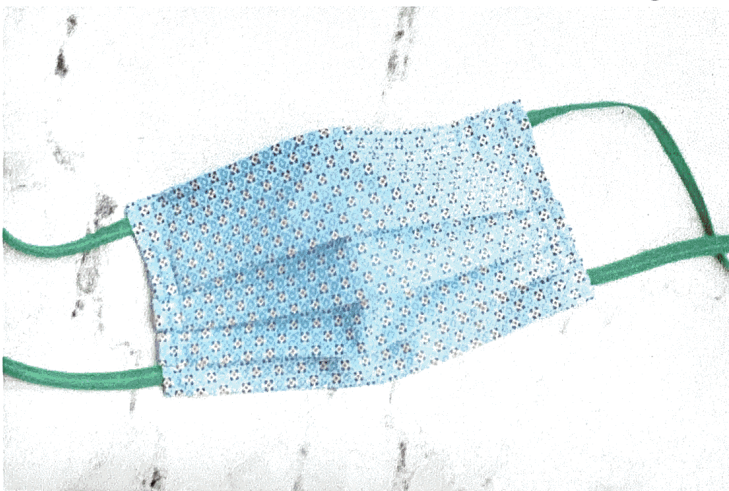
1. **Cut the fabric.** For an adult size mask, cut 1 fabric rectangle 16" long and 8.5" wide. Cut 2 pieces of elastic, each 7" long. Or, cut 4 fabric ties 18" long.

For a child-size mask, cut 1 fabric rectangle 14" long and 6.5" wide. Then, cut 2 pieces of elastic, each 6" long.

2. **Sew the top side, with pocket opening.** Fold the fabric in half, with the right sides facing.

Sew along the 8.5" width edge, using a 5/8" seam allowance. Leave a 3" opening in the center of this seam to create an opening for the filter pocket, and to allow the mask to be turned right side out after sewing.

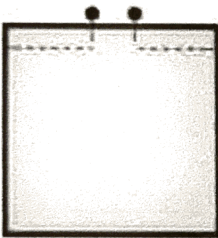
Press the seam open. Topstitch/zig-zag stitch along both sides of the seam for a neater edge.



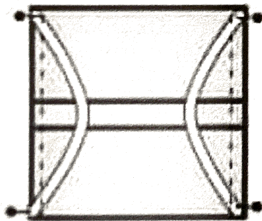
3. **Pin Elastic or Fabric Ties.** Pin one piece of elastic to each side of the mask, one end to the top corner and one end to the bottom corner. If using fabric ties, pin one tie to each corner, with the rest of the tie sandwiched inside the two layers of fabric.
4. **Sew the Sides.** Sew the sides of the facemask. Backstitch over the elastic or fabric ties to secure them.  
Clip the corners, turn the mask right side out, and press with an iron.
5. **Sew the Pleats**  
Create three evenly spaced 1/2" pleats. Pin the folds in place, making sure all pleats are facing the same direction. Sew down each side to secure the pleats.  
Note: When the mask is worn, the pleats should open downwards to prevent any particles from collecting in the fold pockets.



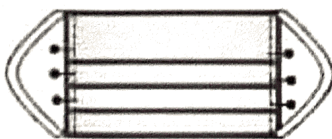
Cut one cotton rectangle, 8.5" wide by 16" long.  
Cut two 7" pieces of elastic or four 18" fabric ties.



Fold in half and sew along the top edge, leaving a 3" opening for the pocket.



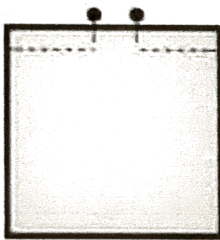
Sandwich the elastic or fabric ties between the layers of the mask. Pin in place at the corners, and sew along each side.



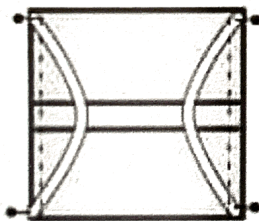
Turn the mask right side out. Fold 3 evenly-spaced 1/2" pleats. Pin in place, and sew to secure.



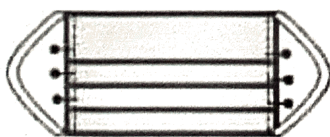
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Turn the mask right side out. Fold 3 evenly-spaced 1/2" pleats. Pin in place, and sew to secure.