

# FACE MASKS

DFG center is open 1-5 Tues, Thurs, Fri for volunteers to pick up supplies and drop off completed masks and donations of fabric, elastic, wire, etc. 1001 NE 16 Ave, Gainesville. Face Mask production is considered essential. Contact: Radha 352 316 6113

The Alachua County FL USA Chapter of Days for Girls International is making face masks for medical professionals and local at-risk populations. We are loosely following the instructions of the Deaconess Hospital (Turban Project) as described in this youtube video: <https://youtu.be/9tBq0Os5FWQ>

There are three changes from the video instructions that we have made. These address the issues our local medical professionals have asked us to correct:

1. Space around the nose allows germs to enter and also causes eyeglasses to fog up—we are now adding a wire inside the casing so it can be bent to lay snugly on the bridge of the nose.
2. Two layers of cotton can block about half of the particles from entering. But better than this is to have a pocket into which filters can be inserted to improve safety—some people are using air conditioning or vacuum filters, filters from N95 masks, interfacing, or even coffee filters.
3. Masks are loose under the chin, allowing more particles to enter so we added a dart for smaller faces.

We are addressing these issues with the following modifications. Local sewists should watch the video and then follow the instructions below:



Zig zag stitch (or serge) top edge (long side) of both pieces of 6"x9" rectangles.

Remember to use two different kinds of fabric so that user can identify one side as front (outside) and one side as back (inside) and not mix them up.

Cotton or cotton blend fabrics can be used. Rotary cutting is an efficient means for cutting out lots of 6"x9" rectangles



Fold over the zig zag edge a scant 1/2 inch.

Stich down all the way across on the back rectangle

Stich down on the front piece leaving a 1 inch opening in the middle of the rectangle (this will allow the wire to be inserted later on). Your stitching should be near zig zag edge of cloth so there is space for the wire. It's more of a casing than a hem.



Place rectangles with good sides together. You will leave the whole top open for now. Start with the top right corner placing 7" of quarter inch wide elastic into that corner and the rest of the piece in between the two pieces of fabric. Stitch back and forth to lock then stitch down that short side. When you get to the next corner, put the other end of the elastic into that corner and double stitch it. Continue sewing bottom edges together and repeat elastic placement with the second piece of elastic, double stitching the corners.

Turn mask right side out.



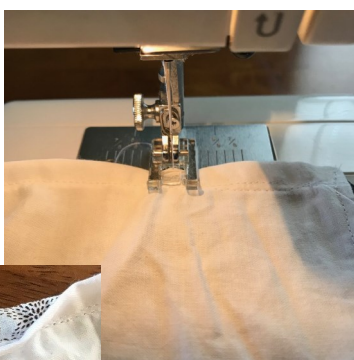
Pin the top pieces together using two pins 3 1/2 inches apart and centered. You will top stitch starting at pin on the right. Don't stitch close to the edge or it becomes difficult to thread the wire inside. Stitch where the folded edge is stitched leaving space in the hem like a casing.

Top stitch all around, reinforcing the elastic in the corners again. Be sure to leave the opening for the filters on the top.



Make 3 pleats the long way, so that the folds are aimed downward. Use pins or clips to hold in place. Then stitch the two sides to hold pleats in place. (The video shows pleating each side individually before top-stitching but this is easier.)

Optional: Make a small dart in the middle of the bottom of the mask so that the mask fits more tightly to the chin. You can skip this if the mask is going to a person with a larger face.



Use a piece of stainless steel wire to make the nose piece lie snugly against the bridge of the nose. Stainless steel wire, paper clips, pipe cleaners, craft wire, etc will all work.

Cut to about 4 1/2 inches. Fold or roll the ends so they won't poke through fabric. Slide into the small opening in the hem of the front piece and center.

To hold in place, stitch perpendicular on both ends of the pocket opening.