




# Uses and Considerations for Different Face Masks

Type	Material	Protection	Appropriate for	Recommendations	Limitations
<p><b>Homemade Cloth Mask</b></p> 	100% cotton and cotton blend (preferably)	May protect from large droplets coming from coughs or sneezes	<p>Community members who are vulnerable to infection.</p> <p>Community members without immediate health risks.</p> <p>Community members with immediate health risks who don't have access to clinical masks.</p> <p>Community members with a cough to protect others from cough droplets.</p>	<p>Combine with social distancing, proper hand hygiene, and avoid touching face for greatest protection.</p> <p>Can be reused when properly cleaned.*</p> <p>May be made at home using widely available materials.</p>	Offers limited protection for people in close contact with someone who is sick.
<p><b>Clinical Mask</b></p> 	Medical grade polypropylene	<p>Fluid resistant</p> <p>Protects from large droplets coming from coughs and sneezes.</p>	<p>Healthcare workers</p> <p>Individuals closely caring for those who are infected.</p> <p>Individuals with immediate health risks.</p> <p>Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 or with similar symptoms.</p>	<p>May be manufactured by community members who follow specific instructions and use medical grade materials.</p>	<p>Supply is limited</p> <p>One-time use</p>
<p><b>N95 Respirator Mask</b></p> 	Specially manufactured filter, shell, and covering	Tight fitting and can filter 95% of very small particles.	Healthcare workers	The CDC currently discourages public use to ensure more masks are available for healthcare workers.	<p>Supply is limited</p> <p>Must be worn correctly to provide protection.</p> <p>Requires professional fit-testing to verify effectiveness.</p>

\*Cloth masks may be cleaned by laundering or disinfection.

- Launder in your washing machine regularly with HOT water (160° F) using soap or detergent that leaves no residue. Rinse well with fresh water and hang to dry.
- Disinfect by soaking for 5 minutes in a solution of 2 tablespoons of bleach per quart of water or 1/3 cup of bleach per gallon of water. Rinse well with fresh water and hang to dry.