

DIY Coronavirus Mask Pattern

Mask design and instructions by Judy Coates Perez

In this time of COVID-19, everyone should have several masks, so that a clean mask is always available and dirty ones are not reused.

A good fit is very important. A mask should sit snug against the face, reaching above the bridge of the nose and below the chin. With elastic cord in short supply, a fabric tie is a great alternative that is also more comfortable for extended wear. A large supply of fabric ties can be easily made from a spare t-shirt.

See this video tutorial <https://youtu.be/oqyhNDSXEfg>

For making masks use tightly woven cotton fabric and prewash it with unscented detergent in hot water.

Using two contrasting fabrics to make masks will help distinguish front and back more easily. Masks should be a minimum of two layers, a third layer can be added and work as a pocket to hold a filter.

Masks must be kept clean. Wash your mask daily in soap and hot water, and hang it outside to dry, sunlight helps kill germs.



Instructions



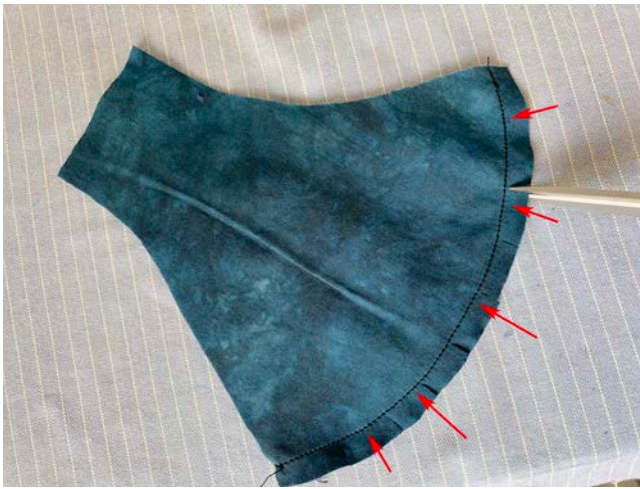
1 Print pattern to desired size; 100% for a smaller women's size or up to 115% for a larger men's size.

Fold fabric in half with right* sides together. Pin pattern to fabric and cut 2 pieces of fabric for the outside of the mask, and 2 pieces from contrasting fabric for the inside of the mask.

* 'Right' refers to the printed top side of the fabric. The printed black batik fabric shown does not have a front or back and is the same on both sides.



2 With right sides together, sew with a 1/4" seam allowance along front curve on outside mask fabric, then repeat for inside mask fabric.



3 On inside and outside mask fabrics, clip seam allowance along curved front seam, being careful not to cut the stitching line. This helps the finished curved seam lie flat when turned right side out.



4 Turn front and back of mask pieces right side out, with top (nose) of mask on the right. Open fabric and press seam allowances away from you in the same direction on both pieces. This will allow the seam allowances to lay on opposite sides of the center seam when sewn together so that it lays flatter with less bulk.



5 Place fabric right sides together, matching center seam at nose, and pin in place. Do the same where the chin seams meet. See page 4 for directions on adding a filter pocket.



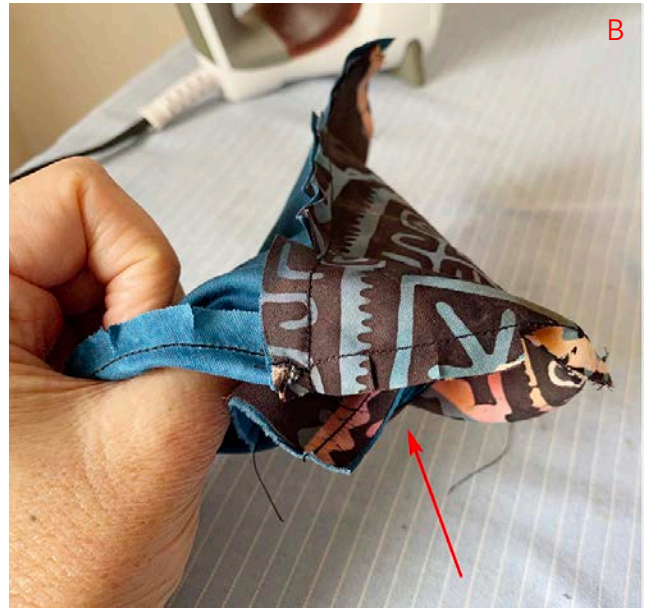
6 Line up both sides of fabric and stitch from one side to the other with a 1/4" seam allowance along the top and bottom edges of the mask.



7 Clip along curved seams along the top edge of mask, and at slight curved area on the bottom edge of the mask. This will help the seams lie flat and not stretch or buckle when the mask is turned right side out.



8 Turn mask right side out by pulling front seams away from each other (A), and pushing the side closest to you through the middle (B) and out the opening on the other side (C). Once right side out, pull fabric at seams to spread seams open to flatten (D).



9 Before pressing seams with an iron, it helps to finger press them by pinching the fabric flat between your fingers at the seams, or running a fingernail, or the pad of your finger firmly over the seams on a hard surface to flatten them.



10 Press seams along the edges of the mask so they lay flat. Turn the mask up on its side to press the center seam flat at the chin and nose.



11 On both side openings of the mask, turn the raw edge to the inside 1/4" and press.



12 To form the tie casings, fold over the outer edge 3/4" to the inside back. Stitch in place approximately 1/8" away from the turned under edge.



13 Follow this tutorial to make a ball of t-shirt yarn to use for cording, <https://youtu.be/oqyhNDSXEfg>

After you have a long strip of 1" wide t-shirt fabric, pull on the end of the fabric to make it curl into a cord. Cut a 40" long piece to use for the tie.

With the mask laying down, nose side up, thread one end of the cord down through each side casing. Tie a knot at each end of the cord.

14 Wear mask with top loop of the cord behind the head, tug loose ends of the cord to tighten, then tie behind the neck.

Optional filter pocket



Stack fabric layers with mask inside fabric right side up on the bottom, filter pocket fabric right side up next, then outside mask fabric right side down. Pin at seams and sew according to previous directions.

Tip: skip the turned hem on the filter pocket fabric layer, by lining up the pattern along the selvedge. Be sure to move the pattern over 1/2" since you are removing the excess fabric needed for a turned hem.

Tip: When turning this mask version right side out, the filter pocket may appear backwards on the front side of the mask because the fabric was flipped on the other side of the filter pocket. To fix it, just pull the mask fabric through the gap between the filter fabric and front of the mask to flip the filter to the backside in the right orientation.

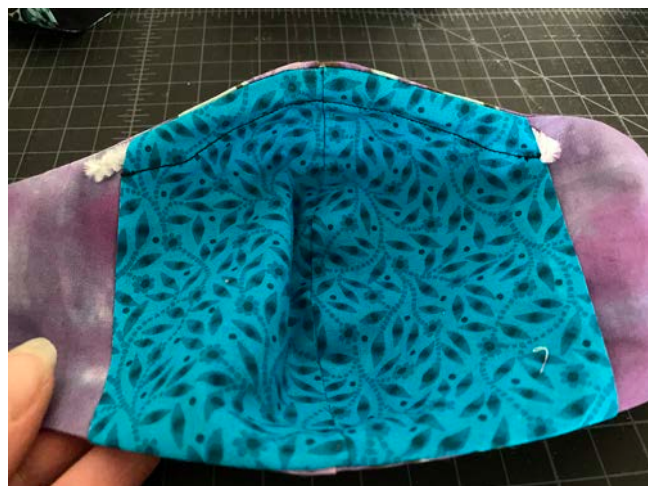
Optional: Adding a nose wire



1 Place filter fabric right-side up on top of the inside mask fabric (also right-side up).



3 Place front of mask and back of mask right sides together and follow previous instructions for mask construction.



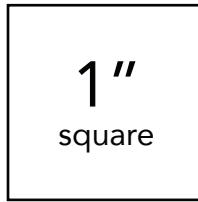
2 With a 3/4" seam allowance, sew across both layers along the top (nose side) of the fabric.



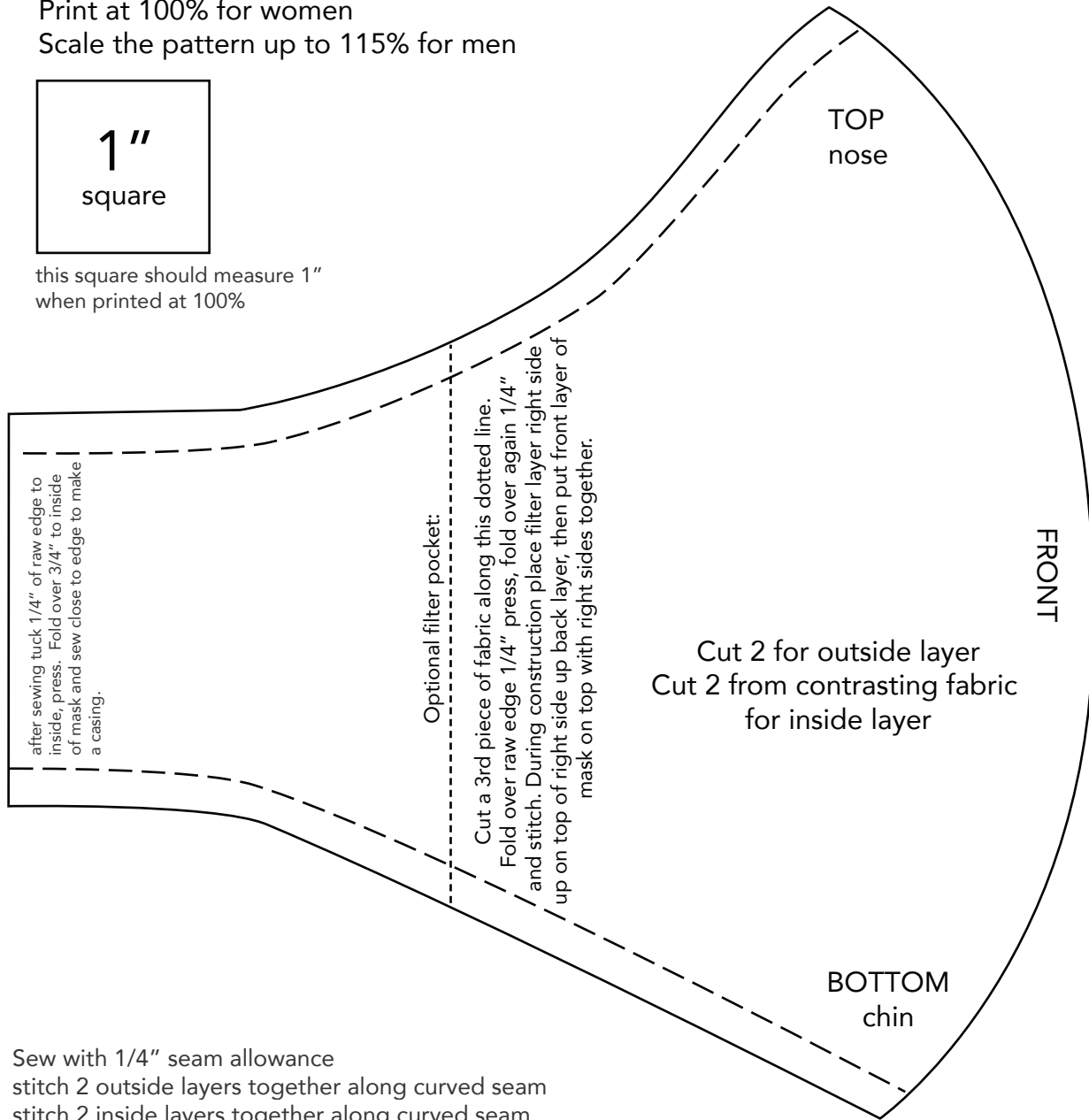
4 After mask is finished, cut pipe cleaner long enough to extend beyond casing for easy removal. To avoid sharp edges, bend ends of pipe cleaner inward.

Remove pipe cleaner when washing masks.

Print at 100% for women
Scale the pattern up to 115% for men



this square should measure 1"
when printed at 100%



Sew with 1/4" seam allowance
stitch 2 outside layers together along curved seam
stitch 2 inside layers together along curved seam
clip seam allowance along curve, press seam in same direction on both fabrics
match top and bottom of front seams with right sides together
stitch along top edge, leaving casing open on side
stitch along bottom edge, clip curves in seam allowances
turn right side out thru side casing, press
fold 1/4" raw edge of casing to inside and press
fold casing edge over 3/4" toward the backside of mask and stitch in place along opening

Cut 1" strip t-shirt fabric, tug fabric to curl into a cord, cut to 40" length. Thread ends of t shirt cord thru top of casing, knot ends of tie so they don't pull back through casing.

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