

Mask Pattern

with option for a filter pocket
and "nerd" strip.

MATERIALS

100% cotton items you have at home...old shirts, pillow cases etc...are perfect for this project.

- Main fabric for the front - 2 rectangles, 7" x 8" and nerd strip (optional)
- Lining fabric - 2 rectangles, 7" x 8"
- Two pieces of narrow elastic - 9"-10" in length, or an old t-shirt, to hold the mask in place
- *Snaps (optional)...sew-in or the "grommited" no-sew snaps.
- Twist ties, with plastic coating, or pipe cleaner, for nose strip (optional)

**When I constructed the masks in this tutorial, we were in the midst of the pandemic. I used what was available at home...sew-in snaps. Although I have access to other styles now, I still find the sew-in style to be the best for this project because they are less bulky.*

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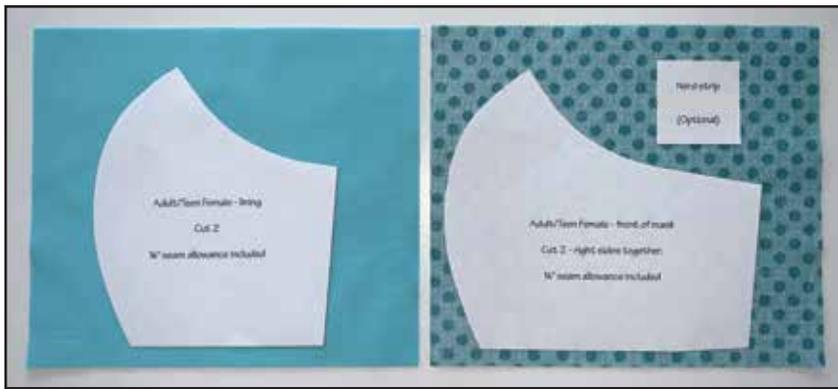
Two sizes - Large for men and Small for women and teens

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FIG. 1



Print mask templates at 100%.

FIG. 1

Place fabric right sides together and cut two of each, front and lining.

Cut one nerd strip, if you choose that option. (2" X 1 3/4" for women; 2 1/4" x 1 3/4" for men)

If you're omitting the nerd strip, skip to FIG. 3. If also omitting filter pocket, skip to FIG. 4.

FIG. 2



FIG. 2

Construct the nerd strip, as shown left. Let cool after each press, so you don't have to fight with it. I like to place it under something to hold the press until it cools (a coaster comes to mind).

Fold and press top edge, 1/4".

Fold and press side edges to the middle.

Fold in half again, as shown.

Top stitch around three sides.

Set aside.

FIG. 3

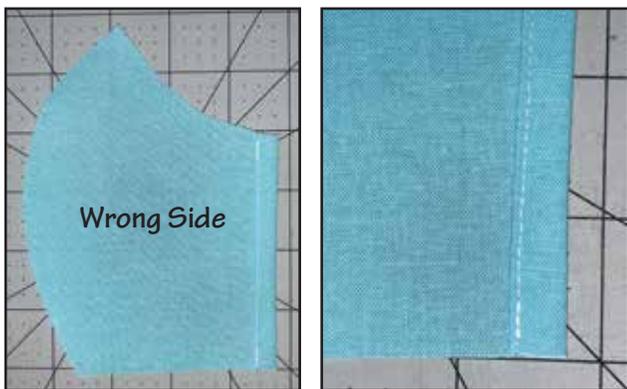


FIG. 3

If omitting filter pocket, skip to FIG. 4.

Finish the side edge of one lining piece.

Fold straight edge to wrong side 3/8". Press.

Fold again to form a double folded edge.

Press.

Stitch.

FIG. 4

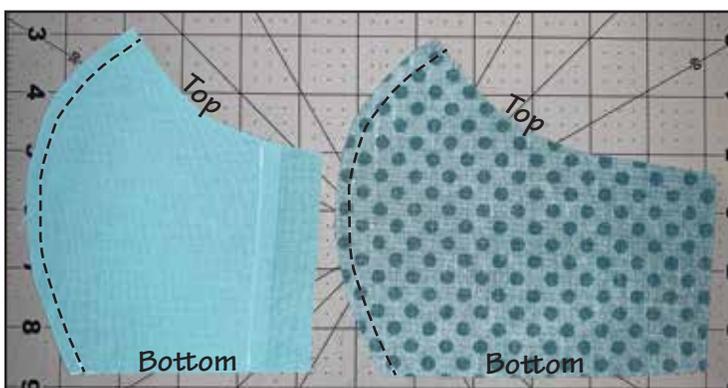


FIG. 4

Stitch 1/4" seam allowance along curved edges, right sides together.

Clip curves, as shown, right.

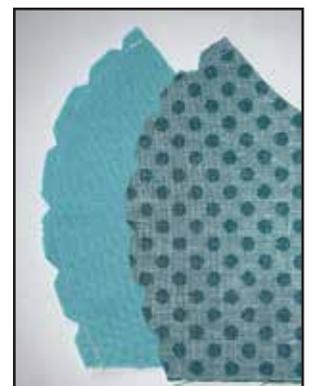


FIG. 5

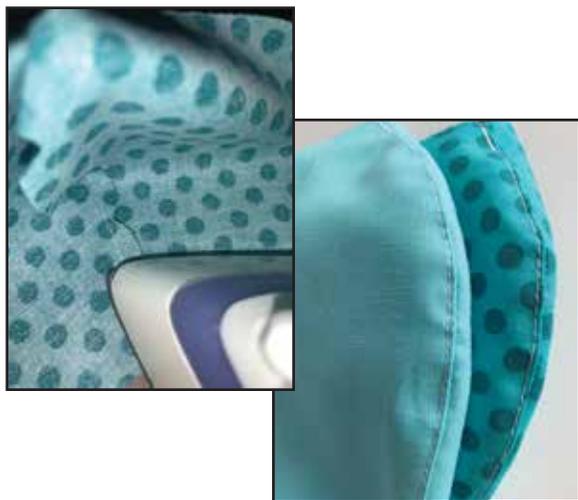


FIG. 5

With wrong sides up, press both mask, and lining seams, to the right. By pressing in the same direction, when placed right sides together, they'll nest nicely and reduce bulk. Top stitch each piece, holding the seam in place.

If you're not adding the nerd strip, skip to **FIG. 7**.

FIG. 6

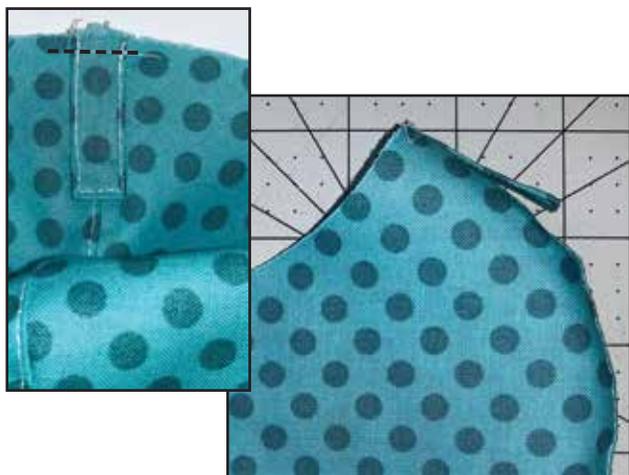


FIG. 6

Align raw edge of the nerd strip with the front, raw edge of the mask. Baste in place.

FIG. 7



FIG. 7

Align center seams of mask and lining, right sides together. Pin, as shown left. Stitch, using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance along top and bottom edges, shown below. Clip curves.

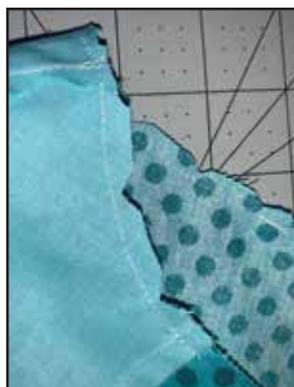


FIG. 8



FIG. 8

Turn right side out and press. As you press, fold, and press, raw edges of the upper and lower parts of the mask $\frac{1}{4}$ ". See left. Top stitch along upper and lower edge.



If you're omitting the wire nose piece, skip to **FIG. 10**.

FIG. 9

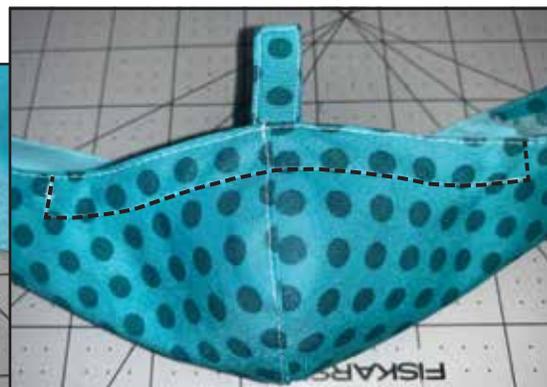
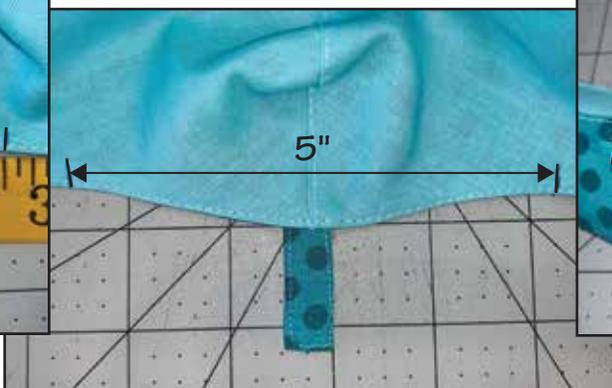


FIG. 9

If you'd like to put a wire nose piece inside the top edge, measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ " from the center on each side. Mark, as shown in the middle picture, for a width of 5".

Using a twist tie, or a pipe cleaner (cut to measurement of $4\frac{1}{2}$ "), insert between the layers of the mask. Slide it up against the top horizontal seam so you can sew an enclosure for the wire. Stitch as shown, above right, sewing $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the upper edge of the mask.

FIG. 10



FIG.10

Finish the side edges of the mask. If you included the filter pocket, see left. Fold about $\frac{3}{4}$ " (or halfway to finished lining edge). Press. Fold and press again ensuring you don't overlap, or cover, the lining piece. Stitch in place. If you didn't include the filter pocket, finish both sides like the illustration on the right. Fold front of mask so raw edges of lining and front align. Press. Fold again where they meet. Press. Stitch in place. If you omitted the nerd strip, skip to **FIG.12**.

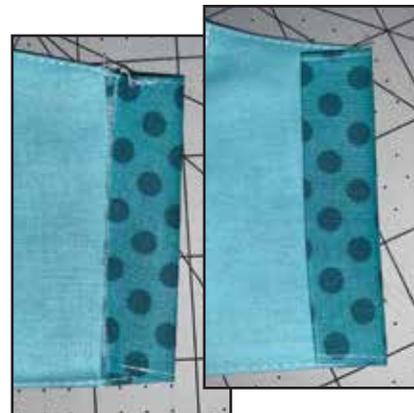


FIG. 11



FIG. 11

Sew snaps, as shown left, to the mask for the enclosure for your glasses. This will help hold the mask in place, preventing you from touching, and adjusting, your mask while wearing it. I have found that the sew in style is the best, size 9-11mm or 3/8" - 7/16".



FIG. 12



FIG. 12

If you prefer to use narrow elastic, cut two 9"-11" pieces of narrow elastic. Pull them through each side enclosure of your mask, using a loop turner or safety pin. Tie a small knot in the ends of the elastic and pull knot into the mask. Loop over your ears.

Alternatively, use an old t-shirt as follows:

Cut off the hem of a used t-shirt using scissors or rotary cutter. I like to use my husband's undershirts because there are no side seams.

Cut a strip 1 3/4" wide. Save the t-shirt...you can make multiple strips for all of your masks. Cut one end of the loop so you have one long strip. Pull on the strip to stretch it out. It will curl, and lengthen, making a perfect, and comfortable, tie strap for your mask.

Use a loop turner, or safety pin, to pull the strip through the side edges of your mask. Starting top left, pulling it down, then back through the right side. See below, FIG. 13.



FIG. 13

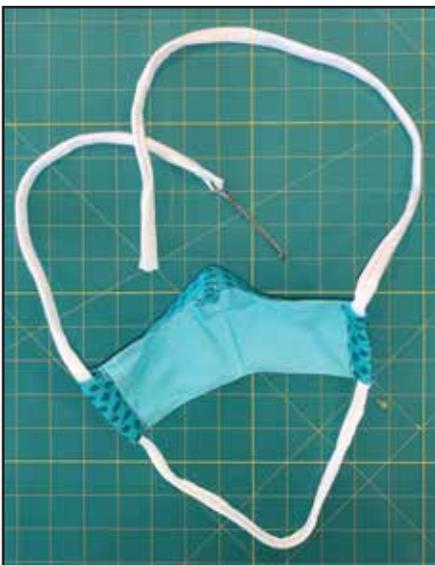


FIG. 13

The best way to wear your mask...

Drape the looped end of the strap over your head. If it were a necklace the mask would lay on your chest, wrong side up.

Position the mask over your face and pull on the two ends of the strap, drawing the loop against the back of your neck. Tie the ends of the strap on top of your head, wherever it feels most comfortable.

If you made the nerd strip, tuck the mask (including the nerd strip) behind your glasses. Fold the nerd strip down and snap in place.

If you made the wire nose strip, squeeze around the bridge of your nose until it feels snug against your face.

Voila! Stay safe and stay the blazes home!!

Nerd strip
Cut 1 - 2¼" x 1¾"
(Optional)

¼" seam allowance included

Cut 2

Large for men - lining

1" test
square

Large for men - front of mask

Cut 2 - right sides together.

¼" seam allowance included

Nerd strip
Cut 1 - 2" x 1¾"
(Optional)

1" test
square

