

# FACE mask FAQs



## ● Why do I have to wear a mask?

In light of new data about how COVID-19 spreads, along with evidence of widespread COVID-19 illness in communities across the country, CDC recommends that people wear a cloth face covering to cover their nose and mouth in the community setting. This is to protect people around you if you are infected but do not have symptoms.

**Plus, in Pennsylvania, cloth face coverings are not only recommended but mandated.**

In the state of Pennsylvania, our government is requiring the use of cloth face coverings whenever you are outside of your home. The mandate specifically states that employers must make their employees wear their mask while at work. The CDC recommends that you wear one anytime you might encounter people.

## ● Will I still have to Social Distance if I wear my mask?

**Yes.** Wearing cloth face coverings is an additional public health measure people should take to reduce the spread of COVID-19. CDC still recommends that you stay at least 6 feet away from other people (social distancing), frequent hand cleaning and other everyday preventive actions. A cloth face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but it may prevent the spread of the virus from the wearer to others. This would be especially important if someone is infected but does not have symptoms.

## ● Are there Do's and Don't's of masks?

**Yes! Here are some:**

**DO** make sure you can breathe through your mask.

**DO** wear it in ALL public settings

**DO** make sure it covers your mouth and nose

**DO** wash after using

**DON'T** put a mask on children ages two or younger

**DON'T** wear official surgical masks or other PPE intended for healthcare workers

## ● Is one mask type “better” than other masks?

Many types of masks and fabrics are allowed. It really boils down to personal preference (and we are finding that people have strong opinions on this topic!). Find a cloth face covering that feels good to you, fits well, stops droplets if you sneeze or cough, and you can wear all day. That is the best kind of cloth face covering.