



DIY Over the Ear Mask

by Dawn Devine ~ Studio Davina

www.davina.us • davina@davina.us



Welcome

Hello! I designed and made the first prototype for this face mask in April 2020. Our governor here in California issued an order for all citizens to wear a face mask when out of their homes. I decided to help out my family and friends by designing a mask that would be comfortable to wear when out taking fitness walks or shopping at the grocery store.



Materials

You will need about 1/8th yard of fabric or a quilters "fat quarter" to cut four pattern pieces for this self-lined pattern. I recommend 100% cotton for comfort. You will also need two 4.5" lengths of $\frac{1}{4}$ " elastic for the ear loops.

You might want to line your cloth with interfacing or you might choose to put ties that reach around the head instead of elastic ear loops.



Prepare the Pattern

This fitted mask pattern is designed for ladies' large-sized faces. When I draped it, I only had my face to test the size and shape, and I usually wear a ladies Large in hats and gloves. So I would assume this to be a large size.



Adjust Pattern to Fit

Print the pattern page and check the grid to ensure the grid size is accurate.

To make this pattern smaller, print at 90% or 80%. Test in sample fabric to ensure you have a good shape, while maintaining the proportions and pattern shape.

For wider faces, add to the flat end to make the mask longer.

Trace your Pattern and Cut

You will need to trace and cut two left and two right sides.

I transferred my adjusted mask pattern to a manilla folder. This creates a sturdy pattern piece that I could quickly trace with tailor's chalk.

To conserve fabric, I like to use the layout below. If you have a full width of fabric, you can lay the pattern pieces in a row across your material.







Sew Center Front Seam

Put right sides together and stitch the curved center seam on both the A and B sides of the mask.

I like to press the seam open over a pressing ham as shown below. To reduce bulk and to make it easier to press, trim your seam allowance and notch or use pinking shears.





Sew the front to the back

Position the right sides together lining up the center seams and pin along the long sides. Stitch with a medium length straight stitch.

I like to use the width of my machine foot as a guide to get a straight seam.





Turn Your Mask

Turn your mask right side out. At this point, it's a curved tube.

I like to use a point turner to smooth my seams out before I press with a steam iron set for the proper fabric setting.









Turn Raw Edge Under

After you have pressed the mask it's time to prepare the two ends to add the elastic ear loops. Fold the raw edge inside 1/4" in and press.





Add Elastic

Slip the 4.5" elastic between the front and back sides near the edges as shown above. Pin in place and topstitch to finish the edge and hold the elastic in place. I like to go over the elastic 2 - 4 times to reinforce the stress points at the elastic.

Finished Mask



Variations on a Theme

Use Ties - While ear loops are comfortable for short-time wear, if you need to wear your mask for a long period of time, install elastic or ties that will go around the head.

Add Wire - If you find that your mask is causing your glasses to steam up, add a length of wire approximately 4" long, or from the middle of one cheek to another. This will allow you to conform your mask to the exact shape of your face.

Make Multiples - If you need to wear your mask daily, make several so you can have one to wear, and one in the laundry.

Share Your Masks - If you know people who need a mask, make them for your friends or relatives. They will appreciate your consideration.

Share this Pattern - Feel free to share this pattern and directions with anyone you feel needs a copy.

