The one that needs sewing
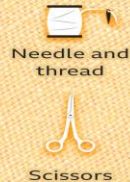Hand sew or machine sew hems

Materials

Cloth

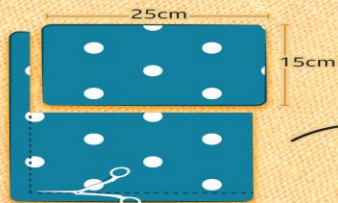Needle and thread

Scissors

Elastic — 15cm

Kitchen towel

Start

Cut two cloth rectangles 25cmx15cm — 25cm / 15cm

Place on top of each other, lengthways

Fold over the top of the fabric 0.6cm and stitch all the way across — 0.6cm

Fold the bottom up and stitch 2.5cm inwards from the edge on either side - this will create a filter pocket — 2.5cm

Fold the shorter sides in about 1cm and stitch – leaving a gap to thread elastic — 1cm

Thread a 15cm piece of elastic through the hem on one side and tie the ends. Repeat on the other side

Put kitchen paper inside pocket as filter

Gather the side of the mask on the elastic and adjust so the mask fits your face. Then, stitch the elastic in place.

Source: CDC

B B C

The Face Mask You Sew Yourself

Hair ties or rubber bands are not particularly comfortable around the ears, so you may want to use cloth strings instead. Cut out two 25x15 centimetre rectangles of fabric and stack them on top of each other. Fold over the long sides (around 0.75cm) and sew by hand or machine. Then fold the fabric over 1.5cm along the short sides and stitch down.

Cut two 20cm long pieces of string (or from a fabric) that can be used to tie the mask behind your neck and the back of your head. Each string should be about 1cm wide. Use a large needle or bobby pin to push the strings through the hem on each side of the mask. Adjust the mask so it fits your face and then tie the string ends tightly together.

Make sure to dispose of and replace the coffee filter and paper towel inserts after each use. Masks should be washed regularly in the washing machine with your usual detergent and left to dry because virus particles may go through the material and moisture could retain the virus in the material. Always wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before putting the mask on and after taking it off.

The one with the bandana:
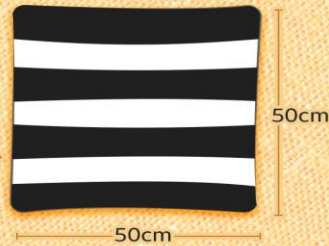Folding cloth and elastic bands

Materials

2.5cm = 1 inch
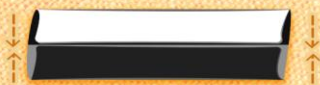
Elastic bands (or hair ties)

Bandana, handkerchief

50cm

50cm

Start

Lay the cloth out flat

Fold in half

Fold top third down, fold bottom up to meet it

12cm

Thread through two elastic bands, 12 cm apart

Fold each side to the middle and tuck into the folds

Source: CDC

BBC

The bandana-coffee-filter mask (No sewing required)

For this one you'll have to source a bandana and two hair ties, or rubber bands, to create ear loops. Pillowcases, scarves or tea towels can also be cut into a square shape – as long as they are made from 100 per cent cotton or another tightly woven material.

Fold the square fabric in half then cut a coffee filter horizontally across the middle and place in the centre of the bandana. Fold the bottom of the bandana up to the middle as pictured here, covering the filter, and then fold the top down. Place each hair tie about one-third of the way in from the edge of the bandana – they should be about 15 centimetres apart.

Fold the sides over the ties so they meet in the middle. The ends should overlap slightly and you can tuck one end into the other to keep them secure. Finally, slip the hair ties over each ear so that the mask fits snugly on your face

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The one with the t-shirt:
Cut up t-shirt* and pin together

Materials

T-shirt   Scissors   Kitchen towel   Pins

Start

Draw pattern across arms and body of t-shirt

Cut along pattern so you have two layers from front and back of t-shirt

Pin one side

Insert non-woven fabric material, coffee filter, paper towel

Pin other side

Tie at back so it is tight across nose and tight under chin

*Always ask the t-shirt owner's permission

Source: New York Times

BBC

Old T-shirt combined with kitchen paper (No sewing required)

Researchers found that T-shirts made up of two layers of heavyweight "quilter's cotton" with a thread count of at least 180 are the best material for homemade masks as they are able to filter out small particles yet remain breathable.

How can you tell if your fabric will be good enough at removing particles? Hold it up to a bright light and check how much light it lets through. If there isn't much light and you can't see the fibres that make up the fabric, it should be dense enough to offer protection.

Outline the pattern of the mask on an old T-shirt (ideally size small or extra small). The top line should be about 20 centimetres from the bottom of the T-shirt. Then cut along the line through both sides of the shirt so your mask has two layers.

Next, measure 15 centimetres in from the edge of each side and cut out tie strings. Make sure the part that goes on your face is large enough to cover your nose and mouth. You can add a piece of paper towel between the two layers of the shirt for extra protection and attach it with a safety pin at the bottom.

Finally, tie the top strings under the back of your head and the bottom strings at the top of your head so the mask covers your nose and mouth. The mask should fit nicely underneath your chin.