



Face Mask Differences

Type	Protection	Appropriate for	Use Guidelines	Reuse	Fabrication
 <p>Homemade Cloth Mask</p>	May protect the wearer and those around them from large droplets coming from coughs or sneezes	For community members following use guidelines	Wearers should practice physical distancing, handwashing, and avoid touching their faces	Can be reused when properly cleaned.*	Can be easily made at home using breathable materials such as cotton or cotton blend
 <p>Clinical Mask</p>	Resistant to fluids and will filter small particles	For frontline health workers	Health workers should follow institutional protocol	Health workers should follow institutional protocol	Must be made using medical-grade polypropylene following fabrication guidelines
 <p>N95 Respirator</p>	Filters 95% of very small particles when tightly fitted	For frontline health workers. Community use is discouraged so more masks are available for healthcare workers.	Requires professional fit-testing to be fully effective	Extended use or reuse requires following CDC guidelines	Manufactured using specialized materials and processes

*Cleaning instructions for homemade cloth masks

- To wash, launder the mask often in your washing machine in HOT water using soap or detergent that leaves no residue.
- Dry on HOT in your dryer.