

Sewing Face Masks for Iowa City Area Healthcare Facilities In Response to the COVID-19 Virus Pandemic

Healthcare facilities in the Iowa City area have requested two different types of masks for use in their facilities. Be sure to check each facility's specifications to ensure that you make the types of

Iowa City Face Mask #2: The Flat Pleated Rectangular Mask

The **Flat Pleated Rectangular Mask**, while not as closely fitted as the Olson Mask, has two layers of tightly woven quilting fabric plus a layer of nonwoven interfacing that enhances its filtering ability.

Number needed as of 3/27/2020: At least 2,000. Mercy Hospital will not be accepting this type of mask, but there are many other organizations that are eager to have them. The 20 long-term care

[Pleated Face Mask Pattern](#)

There are many patterns available for flat pleated face masks. This has become one of our favorites, but if you have made masks from other similar patterns, those are just fine too.

[Pleated Face Mask Instructional Video](#)

This one of our favorite tutorials for pleated masks.

Equipment & Supplies needed

100% cotton woven fabric, high thread count (quilting quality)

You will be cutting 2 pieces of 9"x6" fabric for each mask.

You're welcome to use any color or print, but when choosing fabrics, remember that both male and female medical personnel will use these masks. If you use plain fabric on the inside and a print on the outside, the wearer will be able to remember which is the "dirty" side when they have to remove it for a few minutes and then put it back on.

Light weight non-woven sew-in interfacing, cut one piece 9"x6" for each mask

Elastic cord or braid (1/4" or smaller), two 7" pieces for each mask.

See notes below if elastic is not available.

All-purpose thread

Scissors

Sewing machine



PLEATED MASK—EXPANDED



PLEATED MASK FLAT



IMPORTANT!!

Please ensure that the supplies are stored and masks are made in a smoke-free environment and that no one in the household has been exposed to COVID-19.

The Project Coordinators now have supplies of elastic and nonwoven interfacing that they can provide to makers who need it. See instructions for requesting supplies on the project website.

If elastic is not available, attach ties using one of the following methods.

1. **Use 1/2 inch double-fold seam binding.** Cut 2 40 inch pieces of seam binding Sew one piece across the top and one piece across the bottom of the mask as shown in the yellow version at right.
2. **Make your own seam binding.**
Cut 2 pieces of fabric 40 inches long x 1.75 inches wide.
Iron both long sides towards the middle.
Iron in half
Sew one piece of binding on top and one on the bottom. Sew the whole length of the binding and turn the ends under to finish.
Be sure to reinforce the corner edges well.
3. **Use 5/8 inch grosgrain ribbon** or other suitable ribbon. Cut 2 40-inch pieces, then center over top and bottom edges, and sew on as shown in the blue version at right. Be sure to reinforce the corners very well
4. **Instead of inserting elastic into the corners, sew 4 fabric or ribbon ties into the corners of the mask that can be tied at the back of the head.**
 - a. 1/2 inch or narrower grosgrain ribbon – use 4 ties, 18 inches long each
 - b. 1/2 inch or narrower seam binding -purchased or made from fabric. Make 4 ties, 18 inches long each. Be sure to fold the binding in half and sew to close it up. Finish off the ends by turning the end under when sewing.



LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE WORKING ON SO WE CAN MAKE SURE WE STAY ON TRACK

Register pledges for [Olson Face Masks](#) and/or for [Flat Pleated Face Masks](#)

(we're tracking the two masks separately, so you'll need to enter twice if you're making both).

WHEN YOU HAVE PLEATED FACE MASKS READY TO DONATE

TO NURSING HOMES AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES IN THE IOWA CITY AREA

Put Olson masks into plastic bags in groups of 12. Drop them in the container marked "Masks" inside the **Oaknoll Health Center** located near the intersection of Oakcrest and George Streets in Iowa City. (Note: This is **NOT** the main entrance to Oaknoll off of Benton Street.) A staffer will be inside the door from 6am to 6pm to answer questions as needed. The masks will be distributed to 20 participating care centers in Iowa City, Coralville, West Liberty, West Branch, Hills, and Lone Tree.

Check on the project [website](#) to find other donation opportunities as the project continues.
