

Facemasks requested by Mercy One

<https://www.mercyone.org/northeastiowa/about-us/news-releases/help-sew-masks-for-mercyone>

A video tutorial can be found on the link above.

Supplies needed:

- Outer layer: tightly woven, non-stretch fabric, such as denim, duck cloth, canvas, cotton or twill (fabric must be new/unworn)
- Lining fabric: no stretch cotton, cotton-blend fabric (can be softer and thinner than outer fabric). Muslin material works well.
- Two 6" pieces of 1/4" elastic for ear loops and/or use material to make ties

Steps:

1. Cut the elastic into 6" pieces
2. Cut fabric into 6" x 9" squares of the outer layer material.
3. Cut fabric into 6" x 9" squares of the lining material.

You are ready to sew. Use a 1/4" inch seam allowance

4. Take 1 piece of outer layer material and 1 piece of lining material
5. Start on the long edge of the material half way.
 - a. You will be leaving about 2 inches of unfinished space to turn the mask right side out.
 - b. As you sew to the end, put one of the pieces of elastic on the corner at an angle, and sew through it. Ensure the elastic is between the right sides of the material.
6. Turn to sew the short edge. Before coming to the corner, place the other end of the elastic between the right sides and sew over the three layers.
 - a. Note: the elastic pieces should end up on the inside. When the piece is turned right-side out, the elastic pieces will be on the right side.
7. Sew the other long end.
 - a. Place the other piece of elastic angled at the corner, sew and turn, then placing the other end of the elastic at the last corner.
 - b. Turn to finish the other long side, keeping the 2 inch opening.
8. Turn the mask right side out. Pin the open hole so you can sew it shut in the next step.
9. Now it is time to pleat the sides. Do a 1/2 inch pleat on each end and then a pleat in the middle, so you will have a total of 3 pleats.
 - a. Pin those pleats and repeat on the other short end.
 - b. Sew around the entire mask edge.
 - c. Sew around a second time reinforcing the edges where the elastic is located.
10. The face mask is complete!