

## Handmade Face Mask

From 1/2 yard of two batiks, you can make 4 masks. These masks in no way are virus proof but in some way may offer a bit of protection or ease of mind for the wearer. Filters may enhance their effectiveness.

For each mask, cut two 6" x 9" rectangle, preferable from two different colors so the wearer will know which side was worn on the outside. Fabrics used should be tightly woven. We used batiks for ours. Flannels are not recommended.

Each mask will need two 2" straps that are about 40" long. Fold the strips in half lengthwise twice to make strips that are 1/2" by 40". Elastic loops for ears are not recommended. Ears get sore and there is some doubt as to how well the elastic will hold up to sterilization.

Fold up one raw edge along the 9" side of each rectangle and top-stitch it. This will be the bottom of the mask.

Make two folds or pleats along the 6" side of each mask. These folds should reduce the mask width to 3". Fold to the bottom edge. It is a good idea to keep this reduced width consistent so that the back piece of the mask will be the same size as the front.

Start the first fold about 1-1/2" in from the edge.



Fold the pleat under so the pin is always 1-1/2" away from the edge. The fold is about 1/2" wide.



Make a second fold/pleat so that it just touches the first fold on the underneath side.



Perfection is not important here. Just function. The pleats allow the mask to expand around a face. After you have made the pleats, the width of your mask should be about 3". Use your mat for guidance.

Make folds on both sides of each mask. Baste them down to secure.



Pattern Courtesy of Blue Hen Quilt Shop, Newark, DE [www.bluehenquiltshop.com](http://www.bluehenquiltshop.com)  
This mask is in no way able to provide personal protection from viruses and bacteria but every little bit helps!

Layer the front and back of the masks right sides together and sew the top edge together with a 1/4" seam.

At this point if you wanted to add a wire around the bridge of the nose, you should place it on the seam allowance and zig zag over it. I have heard that an unfolded paper clip or pipe cleaners will do the trick.

Turn the mask right side out and press the seam.



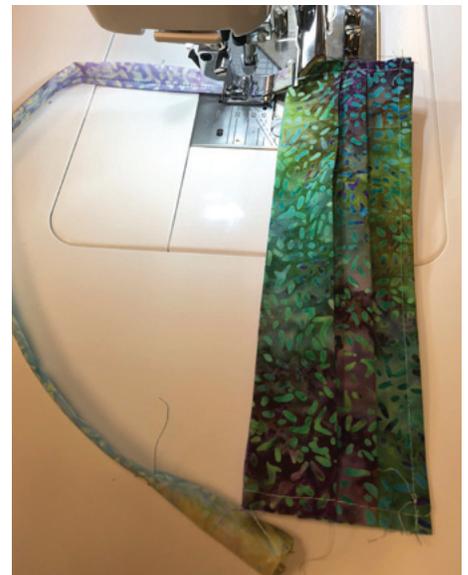
Ties need to be 16-18" in length - I sewed mine end to end and ran it through my Janome Binding foot. We posted a video on our Facebook page if you would like to see it.

If you don't have a binder foot, press the strap in half lengthwise to make it 1" wide and then again so it is 1/2" wide.

Top stitch to close the first 18" or so of the strapping, then insert the 3" side of the mask into the strap, trapping it between the folds.

Continue stitching over the mask and another 18" in length for the strapping.

Repeat this with the other side. There is no need to finish off the narrow ends of the straps. Batik won't ravel much and the shelf life of these masks is limited.



The bottom edge is left open to insert filters, if available. The mask when tied securely around the face, folds up under the chin so the filter will not slip out.

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