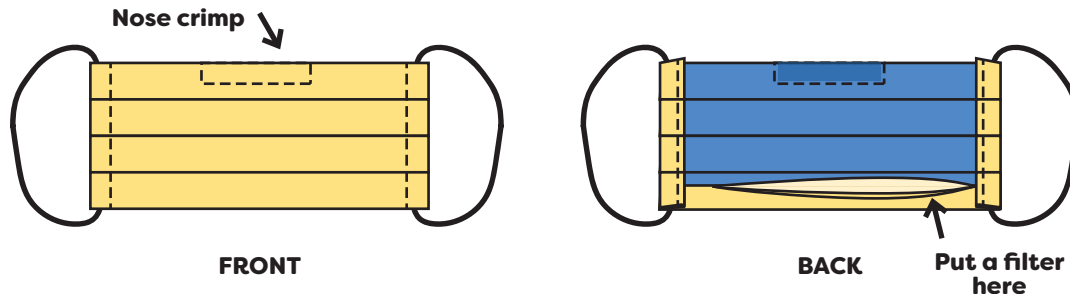


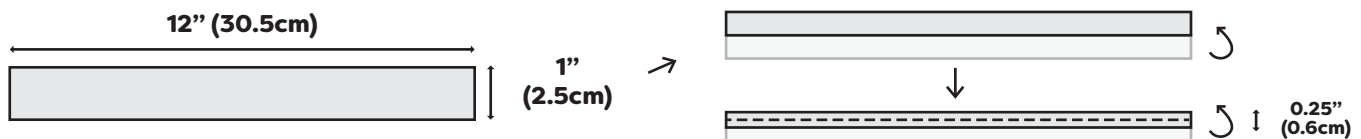
# Easy DIY Face Mask | Filter Pocket & Fitted Nose Crimp

This easy tutorial shows you how to make your own face masks at home using a sewing machine. Our pattern includes a pocket for a filter as well as an optional nose crimp using a piece of aluminum can or paper clip to create a better seal around your face.



## Materials needed:

- Top fabric in 100% cotton - **For Adult:** 9" x 8" (22.9cm x 20.3cm) **For Kids:** 8.5" x 8" (21.6cm x 20.3cm)
- Lining fabric in 100% cotton - **For Adult:** 7" x 7.5" (17.8cm x 19cm) **For Kids:** 6.5" x 7.5" (16.5cm x 19cm)
- **(option 1)** Elastic cord - Note that we found the round elastic more comfortable to wear over a longer period of time, but a flat elastic cord will still function if that's what you have.
- **(option 2)** If you do not have any elastic cord at home, you can sew your own ties by cutting 2 of 12" x 1" strips of fabric, folding it in half twice lengthwise, and sewing down the center to secure them.



- Sewing thread - We used Designer™ 40wt polyester for the top thread as it is strong and flexible, and DecoBob™ 80wt cottonized polyester in the bobbin. Cotton sewing thread will also work just fine.
  - (optional) Aluminum can or paper clip for the nose crimp
- \*Note that 100% cotton is recommended to sew your masks from as it offers both breathability while still doing an okay job filtering particles.

## Filter:

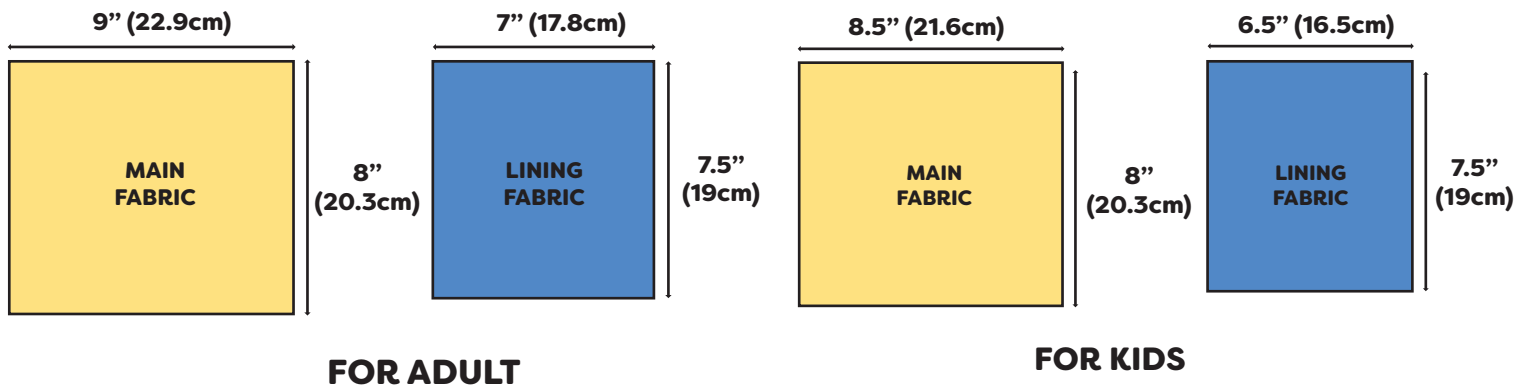
- Cut to 6.5" x 2.5" (16.5cm x 6.4cm). If you have access to a non-woven polypropylene fabric (used in the manufacturing of face masks), this would make the best filter to place in this pattern's filter pocket and would be disposed of after use. However if you do not, you can use another piece of 100% cotton fabric as we did in this video. You can either dispose of it after use or wash it as described below.

## Washing your face mask:

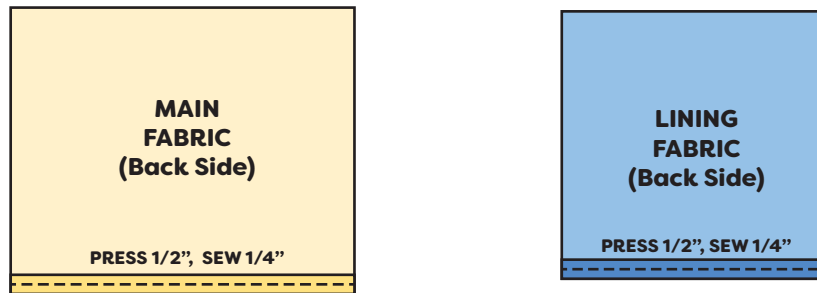
- It is recommended that your reusable face mask is washed in your home washing machine with the water settings on hot using regular washing detergent. It should then be completely dried in the dryer on high heat. Wash your face mask after each use.



**STEP 1:** Cut fabric to size shown below:

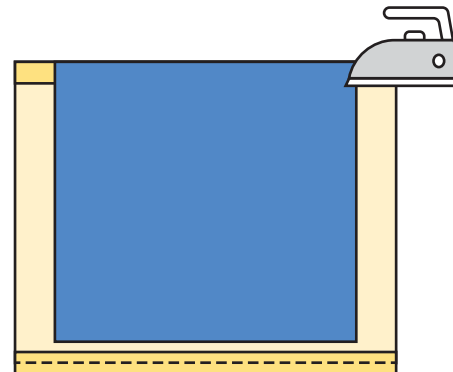
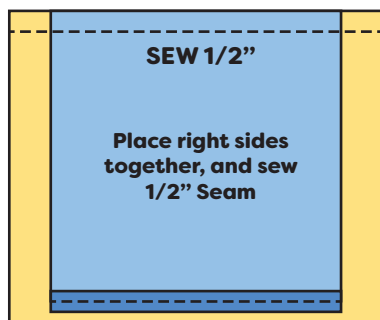


**STEP 2:** Flip your fabric, press hem up by 1/2" (1.3cm). Sew 1/2" (0.65cm) seam allowance.

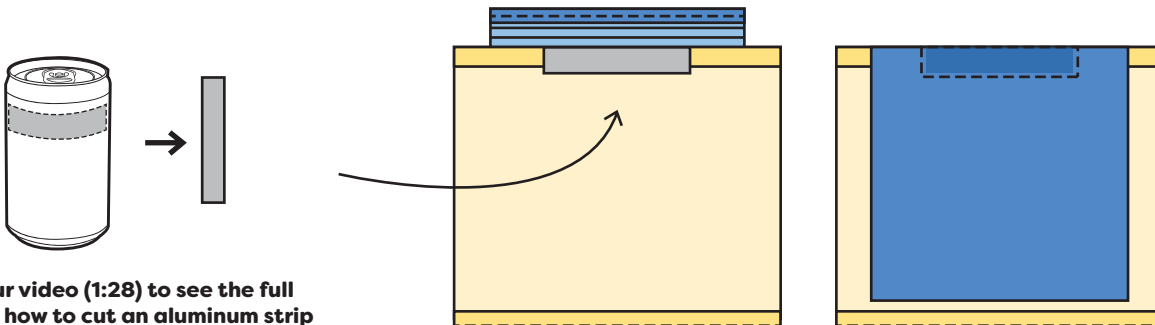


**STEP 3:** Place the fabrics right side together, then sew across using 1/4" (0.65cm) seam allowance.

**STEP 4:** Flip over to face wrong sides together and press the seams.



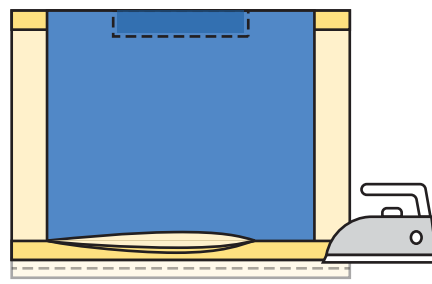
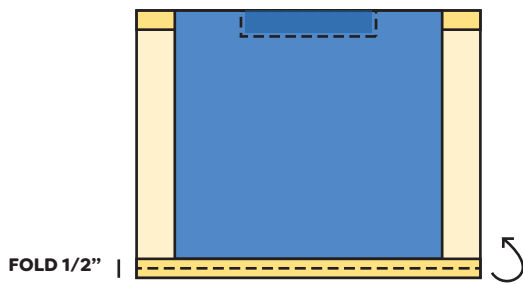
**STEP 5:** Cut a 4" x 0.5" (10cm x 1.3cm) of an aluminum strip and place it between the main and lining fabrics. Stitch around the strip to secure it in place.



Watch our video (1:28) to see the full tutorial on how to cut an aluminum strip



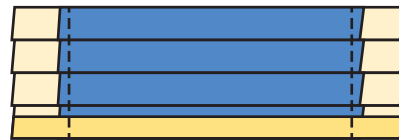
**STEP 6:** Fold 1/2" (1.3cm) from the bottom of the main fabric and press.



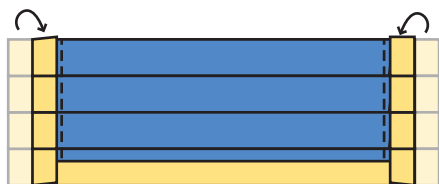
**STEP 7:** Make 3 pleats by folding down. Finished size should be 3" tall.



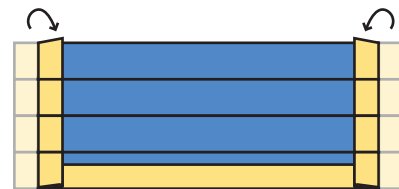
**STEP 8:** Sew each ends using 1/4" (0.64cm) seam allowance.



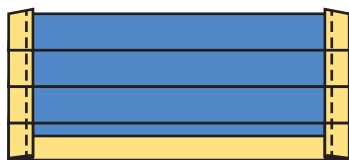
**STEP 9:** Fold the ends over by 1/2" (1.3cm)



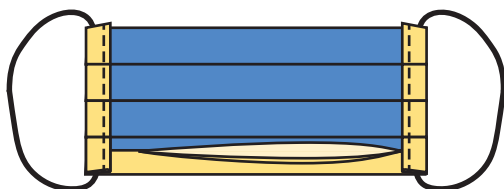
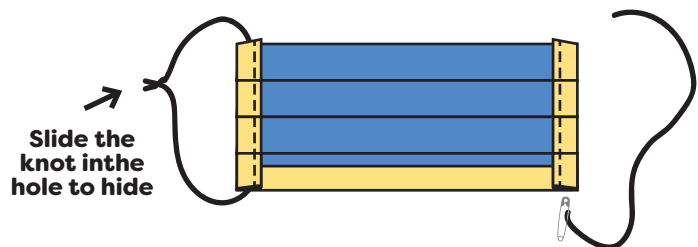
**STEP 10:** Fold the ends one more time.



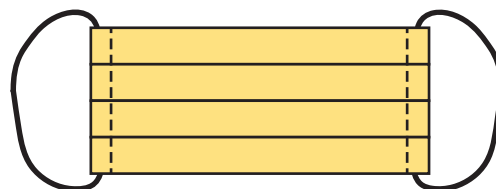
**STEP 11:** Stitch close to the inner edge to create a pocket for the elastic (or tie) to run through.



**STEP 12:** Using a safety pin, run the elastic through the holes of the mask. Tie a knot.



Put a filter here



Your face mask is done!

