

Safe Use of Cloth Masks

Background

The use of homemade cloth masks while in public areas may help reduce the spread of respiratory droplets when someone coughs or sneezes. These masks do not however fully protect the wearer from infectious droplets.

Cloth Mask Recommendations

1. Routinely wash masks in washing machine or hot water
2. Once a mask is on, do not touch it
3. Do not touch your face or eyes when removing the mask
4. Wash hands before and after using a mask
5. Frequently wash hands with soap and water or alcohol sanitizer
6. Avoid crowded areas and wear a mask when in public areas where it is difficult to remain more than 6 feet away from others
7. Continue physical distancing, maintaining more than 6 feet of distance from others, even when wearing a mask

Frequently Asked Questions

Should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned regularly? How regularly?

Yes, masks should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?

A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a face covering.

How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?



Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

