

Handmade Mask Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in sewing fabric masks for Pike County patients.

Don't worry about creating a stylish look, we are just concerned with functionality. Non-matching fabrics, thread, and binding strips are just fine, but a well sewn mask with no frayed edges or missed seams or "holes" is important.

In order to make sure the masks are safe and as effective as possible, we ask that you consider the following points.

- It is most helpful to use a standard pattern to ensure proper fit and function.
- Please use the following patterns.
 - [Craft Passion: Face Mask Sewing Pattern](#)
 - [The Stitching Scientist](#)
- Recommended fabric for the outer portion of the mask includes heavier, non-stretch fabric such as denim, duck cloth, canvas, twill, or other tight woven fabric.
- Recommended fabric for the inner lining and filter pocket can be other cotton, cotton-blend non-stretch fabric. It can be thinner and softer, but again recommended minimal or non-stretch.
 - **Must be laundered in HOT water prior to sewing to prevent future shrinkage.**
- Polyester or other less breathable fabric will not work as well, due to moisture produced when breathing.
- If using denim or other fabric that is being "recycled," please be sure it is clean and in good shape. Worn or dirty fabric will not be protective.
- Elastic should be in good shape, with plenty of stretch and of an appropriate size to fit over the ears. 1/16 inch round cord or 1/8 inch braided work best.
- If elastic is not available, fabric ties can be sewn on the mask. There will need to be 4 ties (one tie on each of the 4 corners). Ties should be approx. ¼ inch in width, sewn in such a way that there are no frayed edges, and long enough to be tied into a bow on the top of the head (for the top corner and behind the head for the bottom corner).

Completed Mask Drop-off Locations

Enclose completed masks in a closed plastic bag or closed plastic box. Deliver your masks to one of the Pike County Food City locations (Pikeville, Shelbiana, or South Williamson).