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# HOW TO: SEWING FABRIC FACEMASKS

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Pomerene Hospital is potentially facing not having enough supplies to protect themselves as they care for patients who may have COVID-19 and other illnesses. Fabric facemasks may help fill this void. Although these fabric facemasks do not filter germs to the level of manufactured healthcare masks, they still serve as a barrier. On behalf of our entire staff at Pomerene, we cannot thank you enough for your willingness to assist us during this trying time.

If you are willing to dedicate the time to make fabric masks for Pomerene Hospital, you may follow the directions below.

## DELIVERY

Please deliver your completed fabric facemasks to the screening trailer at Pomerene Hospital from 11am to 7pm daily. Our screening staff will deliver the masks to the departments in need.

## TUTORIALS

Below you will find recommendations for how to sew a fabric facemask.

- <https://sweetredpoppy.com/how-to-sew-a-surgical-face-mask/>
- <https://buttoncounter.com/2018/01/14/facemask-a-picture-tutorial>
- <https://www.deaconess.com/How-to-make-a-Face-Mask>

## STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. All fabric MUST be prewashed.
2. The masks should be 3 layers of fabric:
  - Front cotton fabric
  - Flannel
  - Lining cotton fabric.

\*\*Some websites are only recommending two layers of fabric, either 2 layers of cotton or front cotton fabric & flannel lining.\*

3. If you do not have elastic, you can make fabric ties. The fabric ties should be 40" (WOF) long.
  - Cut the tie fabric 1 1/2" wide. Fold lengthwise and press, then fold in both raw edges.
  - Topstitch the tie to the top of the mask and another tie to the bottom of the mask.
  - Basically you are making (using) bias tape.
4. **Pin Tucks:** these are the pin tuck instructions (as an option) from the Sweet Red Poppy mask pattern.

- Draw a line 1 ½" from the lower edge of the mask.
- Draw another line 1" above the first line (2 ½" from the lower edge of the mask).
- Fold the seam edge up so the bottom line meets the top line.
- Draw a line ½" from the top crease of the first pleat.
- Draw another line 1" above the line you just drew.
- Fold the lower line up to meet the second line you drew & form a pleat.
- Draw a line ½" above the second pleat you created.
- Draw another line 1" above the line you just drew.
- Fold the lower line up to meet the second line you drew & form a pleat.
- You should now have 3 pleats.
- You will secure the pleats when you topstitch along the sides.
- **Optional:** place a 3" piece of wired ribbon along the top edge of the mask, which is centered in the middle of the mask. The wired ribbon allows the healthcare worker to fit the mask snugly to their nose. If you cannot find wired ribbon, consider using a twisty-tie.