

How to Wash Cloth Masks

Wearing a mask helps slow the spread of COVID-19, while also remembering to keep social distancing and washing your hands often when going out in public.

- Always remove your mask correctly--holding it by the straps, and not the cloth.
- Wash your hands before and after touching a used mask.
- Wash your cloth mask after every use.

How to Clean

Washing Machine:



Wash your cloth mask with your regular load of laundry.

Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest water setting possible for the cloth that was used to make the mask.

Washing by Hand:

Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) household bleach per gallon of room temperature water or
- 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of room temperature water.
 - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection.
 - Bleach products designed for safe use on colored clothing are not suitable for disinfection.
 - Ensure the bleach product is not past its expiration date.
 - Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.



Soak the mask in the bleach solution for 5 minutes.

- Rinse thoroughly with cool or room temperature water.
- Make sure to completely dry mask after washing.

How to Dry

Dryer:



Use the highest heat setting and leave in the dryer until completely dry.

Air Dry:



Lay flat and allow to completely dry. If possible, place the mask in direct sunlight.

Sources:

CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wash-cloth-face-coverings.html>



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