



Wear a cloth mask to help keep your neighbors safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- The [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies).
- Masks or cloth face coverings can help with preventing **your** germs from infecting others – especially in situations where you may spread the virus without symptoms.
- Wearing a mask **does not** protect you from others who may spread the virus. So, whether or not you wear a mask, you still need to wash your hands frequently, cover your cough, and practice physical distancing by keeping at least 6 feet of space between people.

Where am I required to wear a mask in Minneapolis?

- Effective May 26, 2020, people over the age of 2 will be required to wear a mask or cloth face covering in indoor spaces of public accommodation under Mayor Frey’s executive regulation.
- All employers of businesses that are spaces of public accommodation are required to have employees wear a cloth face covering whenever such employees have face-to-face contact with the public.
- A space of public accommodation is defined as a business, or an educational, refreshment, entertainment, or recreation facility, or an institution of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public. (Examples include retail stores, rental establishments, government buildings, and service establishments as well as educational institutions, recreational facilities, and service centers.)
- Beginning June 1, limited outdoor dining will be allowed at restaurants and bars. Employees at bars and restaurants are required to wear masks. Customers have an equally important role in reducing the spread of COVID-19, therefore it is imperative that

customers that are not eating or drinking, whether indoor or outdoor, are also wearing a mask.

- Violations of the mayor's emergency regulation should be reported to 311.
- The City will focus on providing education to residents and businesses. Inspectors will respond to complaints, provide education and resources. A violation of the emergency regulation may be enforced by the issuance of a warning letter(s), administration citation, and/or misdemeanor prosecution.

Wearing a cloth mask is a matter of race equity.

- A disproportionate share of essential, frontline workers are low-income and people of color who are already experiencing higher rates of infection – wearing a mask will help keep more workers and customers safe.

We need to create a new normal where we all take additional steps to protect public health.

- As the State of Minnesota continues relaxing regulations, it's important for local governments to make rules responsive to their unique needs.
- Minneapolis faces unique challenges as the state's largest, densest and most active city, making it all the more important for people to be disciplined about wearing masks.

Online resources provide guidance on wearing and making your own mask.

- [Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.](#)
- [Minnesota Department of Health video on COVID-19 mask do's and don'ts.](#)
- Hennepin County videos on using, making and wearing cloth masks in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Somali](#) and [Hmong](#).

City resources for mask distribution.

- The City of Minneapolis has at times, a very limited supply of cloth masks for public distribution, particularly for vulnerable populations.

- The City is managing donations of items other than personal protective equipment (PPE), including handmade masks. Find information about donating or requesting items on the [City's website](#).
- While we cannot guarantee that we will have masks, the City is exploring a number of strategies for procuring additional masks, such as participating in and organizing mask drives, identifying internal and external funds for purchasing masks and partnering with local volunteers for collection and distribution.
- Many local vendors and manufacturers across Minneapolis have shifted production to cloth masks and we encourage you to support those businesses if you can.