

Driscoll Children's Hospital's top priority is the health and safety of our patients, staff and visitors. As COVID-19 cases continue to rise across Texas and hospital beds fill up, cloth face masks may play a part in keeping us all safe.

Federal health officials have started recommending that mouths and noses be covered with fabric during the coronavirus pandemic, to potentially help slow the spread. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention further recommend that cloth face coverings be used in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

That's why Driscoll Children's Hospital is grateful to accept DIY facemask donations from the community for our parents and others visiting our institution. These will allow us to save the medical masks for our team who is providing direct patient care while keeping everyone as safe as possible. If you would like to help our staff and patients and their families by volunteering to sew and donate face masks, please follow these steps:

**1. Materials needed:**

- Fabric: Fabric should be tightly woven and 100% cotton. High-quality cloth, including "quilters cotton" were found to work best. If light passes easily through the fibers and you can almost see the fibers, it's not a good fabric. Please wash all fabrics prior to sewing the mask, so they are preshrunk.
- Elastic
- Wire plant twist ties, found in Garden section of store.

**2. Pattern:**

The DCH nursing staff have decided that the following pattern will be most beneficial; however, we will accept any donations. This particular mask includes a pocket to allow for a filter insert that could help protect essential staff. This has more protection than a cloth mask with no filter.

*Face Mask with Filter Pocket*

*Measurements of Materials:*

*15" x 8" piece of cotton fabric*

*2 pieces of elastic 1/4" x 7"*

*7" piece of wire (Plant twist tie found in the garden section)*

*Instructions*

*1. Fold material in half lengthwise so it measures 8" x 7 1/2"*

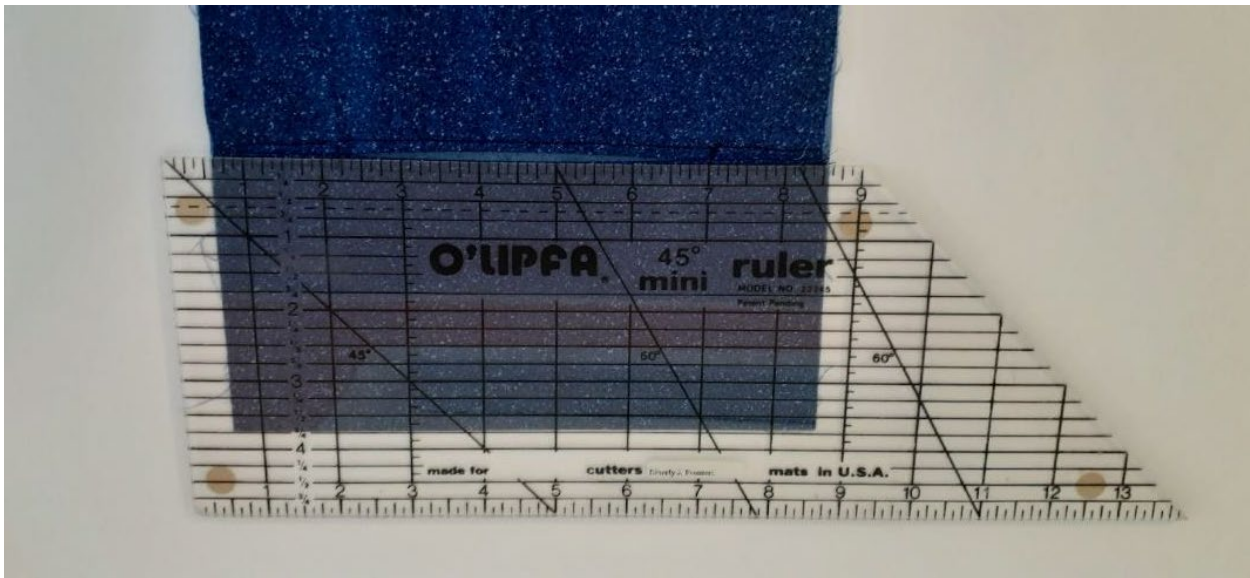
*2. Make a mark 1 1/2" in from the edge on each side. Sew across 1/4" from top until you come to the 1 1/2" mark. Do the same on the other side leaving an opening in the middle.*



3. Press seam open. Top stitch along the pressed open seams along both seam edges. Bar tack a few stitches at ends of the opening to prevent it from stitches from tearing out.



4. Turn right side out. Fold piece in half with the opening  $3\frac{3}{4}$ " down from the top and press. This is the pocket where the user will insert a filter.



5. Pin a piece of elastic on each side  $\frac{1}{2}$ ' from the top and bottom with the ends facing out. Be sure elastic is not twisted. Pin and baste through top layer of fabric only.



6. Turn wrong sides out with elastic sandwiched in the middle facing in. Sew  $\frac{1}{4}$ " down the open sides being careful not to catch in the elastic. Turn right side out and press.



7. Insert twist tie through the opening and push up against the top edge of the pocket. Tie will be approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the side edges. Sew a few stitches across ends of twist tie to hold in place. Sew  $\frac{1}{4}$ " across the top edge sides keeping the twist tie snug against the top. The twist tie will let the mask shape over the nose.



8. Make 3 evenly spaced pleats across the mask and press. Pleated mask should measure 4" down the side. To form pleats, I marked on the front down each side the following measurements starting from the bottom to the top.  $1 \frac{1}{4}$ "  $2 \frac{1}{4}$ "  $2 \frac{3}{4}$ "  $3 \frac{3}{4}$ "  $4 \frac{1}{4}$ "  $5 \frac{1}{4}$ " Pleats should fold down on the front side.



*9. Sew 3/8" down pleats, across bottom and up the other side. Sew down the sides a second time to secure the pleats.*



If you have any questions regarding the instructions, please call 361-694-5012. If possible, with your donations, please include a copy of the pattern that you followed to make your masks. This information is not required, but it would be beneficial to our team.

### **3. Delivery:**

Masks can be dropped off by appointment only by calling 694-5012 or can be mailed to the following address:

Driscoll Children's Hospital  
c/o Volunteer Services Department  
3533 South Alameda Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78411