

How to Wash a Cloth Mask

Cloth masks are an additional step to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with every day preventive actions and physical distancing in public settings.

Cloth masks should be **washed after each use**. It is important to always remove masks correctly and wash and sanitise your hands afterwards.

Cloth masks should be replaced after 4 hours of use or when they are wet.

How to clean

Washing machine

- You can put your mask with your regular laundry, a good idea is to wash it immediately after work with your work clothes.
- Use regular laundry detergent and the highest setting possible for the material used to make the mask.



Washing by hand

- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:
 - 1/3 cup household bleach per 4 litres of room temperature water or
 - 4 teaspoons household bleach 1 litre of room temperature water
- Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection. Some bleach products, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing, may not be 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 room temperature water.



Make sure to completely dry cloth 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 cloth mask in direct sunlight.



Source: CDC

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