

#MaskUpWisconsin

As businesses, schools, and other facilities begin to reopen, the Department of Health Services (DHS) is urging partners to take extra precautions and protect their communities. Public health experts agree that wearing a mask or cloth face covering is one of our best defenses against community spread of COVID-19.

We are ramping up **#MaskUpWisconsin** efforts and asking our partners to join. The following is a toolkit of useful resources that your agency can use to encourage your communities to wear masks.

Importance of Masks

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus that can be spread through the air. When individuals wear masks, they help reduce the amount of infectious air particles. While other practices including frequent hand washing and physical distancing are crucial, masks will help reduce the spread in public spaces. Not all people can wear masks. If someone else is not wearing one, the best idea is to assume they have a medical or safety reason.

Visit [COVID-19: Avoid Illness](#) for more information on the importance of masks.

How to Make a Mask

While stores and websites are selling cloth face coverings, DHS recognizes that some Wisconsinites may have financial barriers to purchasing masks. Making masks accessible to all populations is crucial to **#MaskUpWisconsin**. Share these resources that provide easy instructions on how to make a cloth face covering using items from home. You could also connect with local organizations that may be distributing free masks or local businesses that may be selling them at a low cost.

[How to Make a Cloth Face Covering Without Sewing: Bandana Method](#), P-02646

[How to Make a Cloth Face Covering Without Sewing: T-Shirt Method](#), P-02646A

How to Wear, Remove, and Wash a Mask

It is important to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before putting on or a removing a cloth face covering. The following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) infographics explain ways to safely wear, remove, and wash a mask.

[CDC: How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering](#)

[CDC: How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings](#)

How to Support Mask Use

Social media is a great way to provide COVID-19 related information and reach a wide array of individuals. Create graphics or use the **#MaskUpWisconsin** hashtag to encourage the use of cloth face coverings. Follow DHS on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) and share our social media graphics. Please encourage your local organizations and partners to also share these graphics.

Additional Resources

- [Thank you for wearing a mask, Wisconsin!](#) (Video)
- [Governor Evers Talks Masks](#) (Video)
- [Thank You for Doing Your Part to Stop the Spread of COVID-19](#) (Poster), P-02673A
- [COVID-19: ASL, Language, and Print Resources](#)

Access other COVID-19 related posters, infographics, and fact sheets. A majority of the resources are available in Hindi, Somali, Hmong, and Spanish. All resources are free to print, share, and use to support Wisconsin's efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.