



PROTECTIVE MASKS:

come in many different styles and materials. It's important to know the uses and limitations of each type of mask before you wear one. Regardless of the type of mask you use, it's vital to wash your hands before you put it on, before you take it off, and after you take it off. In addition, be sure to store your mask correctly to avoid contamination. Be sure to consult with EHS if you have questions about the different types of masks or what is required for your work.

CLOTH MASKS:

- Designed to minimize the wearer from spreading airborne diseases.
- Do not have a tight seal against the face; it will not protect the wearer from inhaling airborne bacteria or virus particles.
- Provides a protective barrier from touching your face.
- Can be reused multiple times and should be laundered daily.
- Effective June 15th, the UO instituted a [Facial Covering Regulation](#), supported by the Governor's mandates, requiring a face covering (mask, cloth covering, or face shield) when inside UO properties and outside when 6 ft. of distance is difficult to maintain, certain exemptions apply.
- UO will be working to provide face coverings to UO community members.
- University community members are welcome to wear their own cloth masks. They are easy to make at home with common materials (see [here](#)) or find in stores, versions with exhaust valves are discouraged.

IMPORTANT: wearing a cloth mask does not mean you should ignore physical distancing requirements. Make every effort to maintain at least 6 ft. from others while at work and in public areas.

SURGICAL MASKS:

- Are designed to prevent the wearer from spreading airborne diseases
- Will help block large-particle droplets, splashes, sprays, or splatters that may contain viruses and bacteria from reaching the wearer's mouth and nose
- Do not have a tight seal against the face, it will not protect the wearer from inhaling airborne bacteria or virus particles
- Provide a protective barrier from touching your face.
- Surgical masks are a form of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and are provided to employees by the UO where their use is required; eg. University Health Center, University Police Department (UOPD)

N95 RESPIRATORS:

- A tight fitting mask that seals to the face, also known as a "filtering face piece respirator"
- Is regulated by OSHA, requires training and fit testing prior to use
- Filters out 95% of airborne particulates that are .3 microns or larger
- N95's are a form of PPE and are supplied by the UO for tasks where it's use is required. Typically this is for employees in the Health Center, Police, fabricators, painters, carpenters, etc...
- To preserve the limited supplies, employees are asked not to do any work requiring an N95, unless they work in the Health Center or UOPD.



Examples of cloth masks



Example of a surgical mask



Example of a N95 Respirator

