

COVID-19 Healthcare Mask Collaboration - South OC

Instructions for Donors

I am new to this site, how do I get started? Register with this [link](#).

What type of material can I donate?

We only accept new material, no used materials such as used sheets.

Ideal:

Quilters-grade cotton, 6-8 oz. weight, is ideal. You may see this referred to as “medium weight” cotton if shopping in-store or online. 100% cotton is the first choice but a poly/cotton blend will also work such as 90% cotton-10% polyester. If the percentage of polyester is too high, the fabric will be too “drapey”. The finished mask requires a bit of structure to make the pleats when sewing and to function well when wearing. One way to tell if a fabric is too lightweight is to put it up to a light, if a lot of light is shining through, then that fabric will not be adequate.

Not Acceptable:

Upholstery-grade fabric is not a good choice for mask-making. This type of fabric is commonly used in drapery, decorative pillows, sofas and sofa cushions. The weight is much too heavy for mask-making purposes. The mask needs to be comfortable to wear on the face and breathable. Another point of caution is that some upholstery-grade fabrics may be pre-treated with chemicals meant to resist stains and spills. It's safer to avoid this altogether.

Note: Other fabrics we recommend not using or accepting for donations:

Jersey knits or t-shirt type fabric unless are not recommended unless you're making masks for your own personal use, fleece-type fabrics as these are too heavy and warm, silks, satins, anything that contains elastane or spandex, and fabric that is too lightweight or thin. You can do a simple test by holding up your fabric to a light source. If too much light shines through, it is likely not ideal for mask-making.

What other things can I donate?

¼” elastic, pipe cleaners