



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALASKA DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

CEPOA-CT

April 8, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ALASKA DISTRICT CONTRACTORS

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Guidance on Use of Cloth Face Coverings

1. Effective immediately and in accordance with the latest Secretary of Defense guidance regarding protective measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, all individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers. This includes all military personnel, civilian employees, family members, contractors, and all other individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities.
2. The U.S. Government will not be issuing personal protective face coverings. Medical personal protective equipment such as N95 respirators or surgical masks will not be issued for this purpose as they will be reserved for appropriate personnel. Personnel are encouraged to fashion face coverings as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
3. Security checkpoints may require the lowering of face covers to verify identification.
4. Military Installation Commanders will remove any contractor personnel from the installation who have been found to have violated these health and safety requirements; and continued infractions could lead to removal of the contractor from the installation as well.
5. For questions or clarifications regarding this memorandum, please contact your COR, ACO or Contracting Officer.
6. Point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at 907-753-2543 or via email at christopher.a.tew@usace.army.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher A. Tew", is located below the sixth item of the list.

Encls

Christopher A. Tew
Chief of Contracting



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

APR 05 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE

SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM
EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC
AFFAIRS
DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Guidance on the Use of Cloth Face Coverings

The Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to taking every precaution to ensure the health and wellbeing of our Service members, DoD civilian employees, families, and the Nation in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. DoD supports, and will *continue to implement, all measures necessary to mitigate risks to the spread of the disease,* consistent with the Department's priorities to protect our people, safeguard our national security capabilities, and support the government's whole-of-nation response.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. Military personnel, DoD civilian employees, their family members, and DoD contractors are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidelines on the use of cloth face coverings in public settings or where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Effective immediately, to the extent practical, all individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public areas or work centers (this does not include in a Service member's or Service family member's personal residence on a military installation). This includes all:

- Military Personnel

- DoD Civilian Employees
- Family Members
- DoD Contractors
- All other individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities

Exceptions to this requirement may be approved by local commanders or supervisors, and then submitted up the chain of command for situational awareness. Security checkpoints may require the lowering of face covers to verify identification.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness will issue updated force health protection guidance on DoD implementation. The Military Departments will issue guidance on wear for Service members. As an interim measure, all individuals are encouraged to fashion face coverings from household items or common materials, such as clean T-shirts or other clean cloths that can cover the nose and mouth area. Medical personal protective equipment such as N95 respirators or surgical masks will not be issued for this purpose as these will be reserved for the appropriate personnel.

The Department will continue to implement force protective measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to our total force and their families, and the American people. The latest DoD policies can be found at <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus>.

Matt T. Egan

Information Sources 05 APRIL 2020

It is always best for a health consumer to be well educated about a health issue. Please consider viewing the CDC links below in their entirety. A summary of the CDC articles is on the following slides.

CDC How to protect yourself Steps:

* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

This includes updated **GUIDANCE ON FACE COVERS FOR VOLUNTARY COVID-19 PROTECTION**

CDC Symptoms and Testing:

** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

CDC Steps When you are Sick:

*** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

CDC Return to Work following Illness Guidelines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

CDC People Who are at Higher Risk for Severe illness:

**** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html>

Surgeon General's how to make Face Cover: <https://youtu.be/fPX1yqvJgf4>



Force Health Protection Guidance 05APRIL2020



Watch for symptoms:

- The symptoms of Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) range from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. **
- These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure (based on the incubation period of the viruses) and present with:
 -  Fever
 -  Cough
 -  Shortness of breath**
- If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 such as trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, have bluish lips or face get medical attention immediately (list is not all inclusive), please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning. **

How to Protect Yourself & Others

- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.*
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until dry.*
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth with unwashed hands.*
- **Stay home as much as possible and put a 6-foot distance between yourself and other people. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick like those 65 years and older, people with serious heart conditions, chronic lung diseases, people who are immunocompromised, people with severe obesity, or certain people with not well controlled diabetes liver, or kidney diseases. ******

Take Steps to Protect others:

- **Stay home if you are sick, but stay in touch with your doctor.*** Avoid sharing personal household items.*****
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.***
- **Throw used tissues in the trash.** Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.*
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover** when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected. Do NOT use a mask meant for a healthcare worker. Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. **The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.***
- **USACE workers who already require the use of PPE, including respirators, by virtue of their positions are unaffected by this guidance.**
- **Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.** If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water, prior to disinfection with a EPA recommended sanitizer.*



Should I be Tested for COVID-19**?

- **Go to [**https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html) and click on the Coronavirus Self-Checker to identify a need to be tested.** Follow directions and if you have any concern contact your healthcare provider.

CDC Tips for Face Covering Use

Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Important: Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

Cloth face coverings be washed routinely, depending on the frequency of use with a washing machine.

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

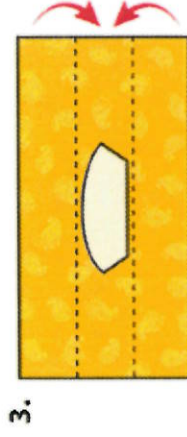
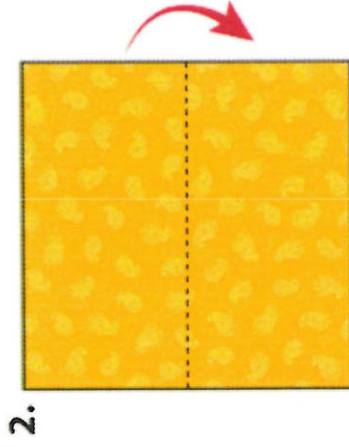


Bandanna Face Covering (no sew method)

Materials

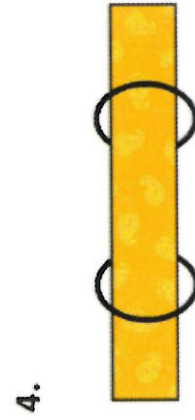
- Bandana (or square cotton cloth approximately 20"x20")
- Coffee filter
- Rubber bands (or hair ties)
- Scissors (if you are cutting your own cloth)

Tutorial

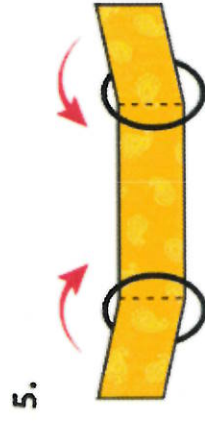


Fold filter in center of folded bandanna.

Fold top down. Fold bottom up.



Place rubber bands or hair ties about 6 inches apart.



Fold side to the middle and tuck.





USACE Force Health Protection Steps



USACE Force Health Protection (Past Levels):

0 ROUTINE

No community transmission

Take everyday actions to stop the spread of germs:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Cover your cough/sneeze with a tissue, then throw it in the trash; cough/sneeze into your elbow if tissues are unavailable.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Ensure all immunizations are up to date, including your seasonal flu shot.
- Stay home if you are sick, and avoid close contact with Family members and pets.
- Create an emergency preparedness kit.

ALPHA LIMITED

Community transmission beginning

Continue all previous actions and:

- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you are sick, call your medical provider for instructions on receiving care before going to the clinic.
- Stay informed by routinely checking reliable sources of information such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and your local public health agencies.

BRAVO MODERATE

Increased community transmission

Continue all previous actions and:

- Avoid unnecessary contact with others, such as shaking hands and hugging.
- Avoid unnecessary travel, especially to areas known to be experiencing active disease transmission.
- Ensure supplies of food, medication, and other items needed for babies and pets are available to last at least 14 days.
- Prepare for travel restrictions and cancellation of public gatherings, such as school, religious, and other community activities; make alternative arrangements for childcare.
- Observe local guidance on movement restrictions and access requirements for military installations.
- Seek guidance from employers and unit leaders about changes to work practices (e.g., telework) and training events.
- Comply with medical orders for self-isolation or quarantine.

USACE Force Health Protection (Current Level):

CHARLIE SUBSTANTIAL

Sustained community transmission

Continue taking all previous actions and:

- Expect cancellation of in-person gatherings (e.g., schools, daycare, all community activities) and restricted ability to travel.
- Plan activities for Family members, especially children, in case you are restricted to your home for prolonged periods of time.
- Prepare for the potential of limited access to supplies and services, including severely restricted access to military installations.
- Implement remote work procedures as directed by your employer.
- If outside the United States, authorized or ordered departure actions may be implemented.

Next Force Health Protection Level:

DELTA SEVERE

Widespread community transmission

Continue taking all previous actions and:

- Expect to remain at home for extended periods of time as movement in the community may be restricted, and at-home isolation or quarantine may be directed.
- Follow all directives and guidance from local, state and Federal authorities; these actions are to protect the health and safety of you and your Family.

Disinfect commonly touched surfaces...

Wash hands for 20 seconds frequently...

Maintain a 6-foot distance from people...

Voluntarily wear a face cover when outside of home...

