

## MATERIALS NEEDED

For each mask

Outer Fabric  
7" wide by 16" long.

Interfacing fabric for filter:  
6" wide by 7" long.  
NOTE: Used gray interfacing in these instructions for illustration, but can use loose or iron on Pellon, an extra fabric piece, etc.

2 pieces of elastic,  
7" long each.  
1/4" works best  
NOTE: if the elastic is soft, 7 inch is fine. But if the elastic is stiff, use 8" strip. Easier on the ears.

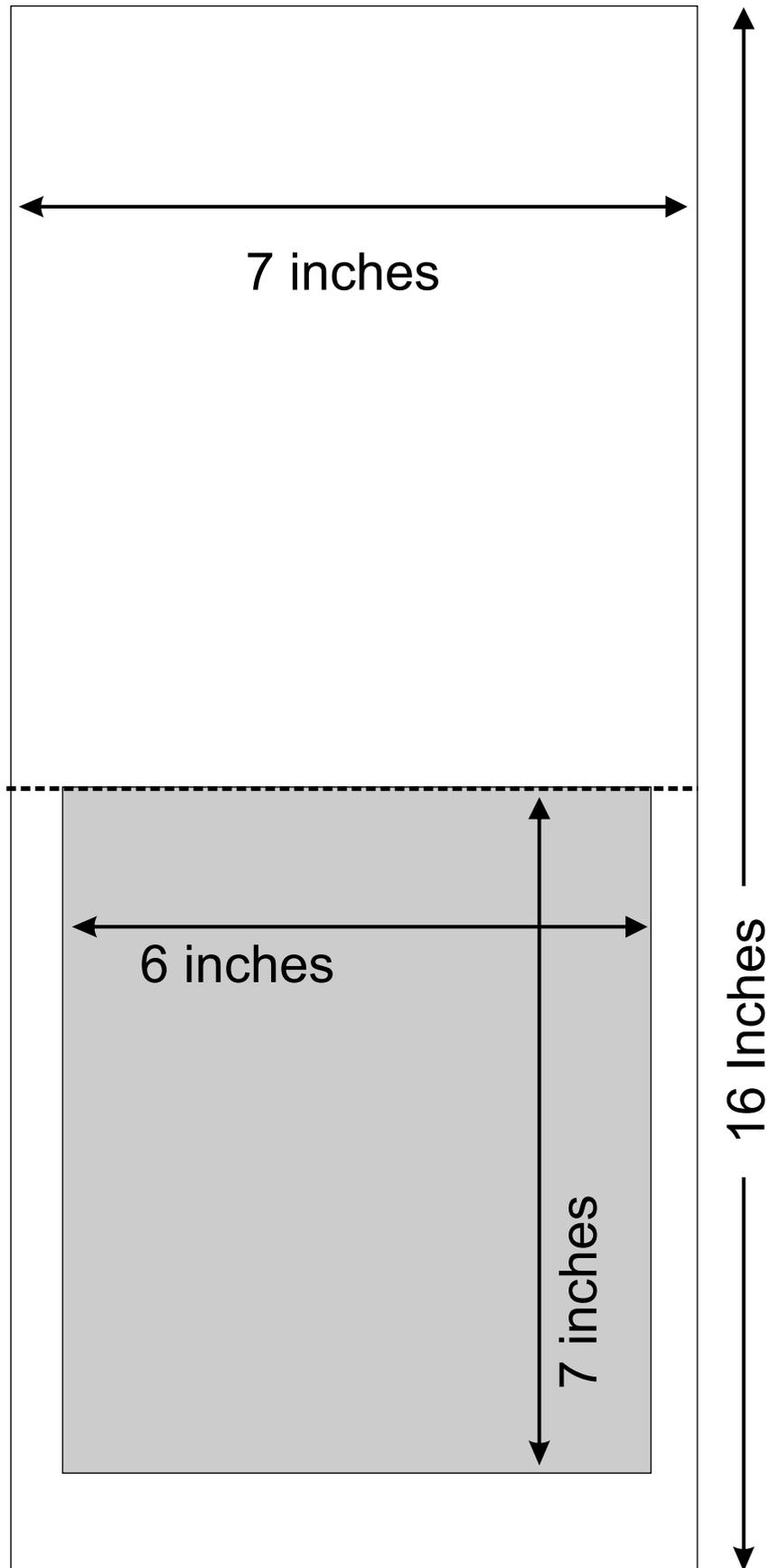
Tie Version: 2 3/2 inch x 1.5 inch fabric strips

1 Wire - 5 inches

26 Gauge works best but use what works.  
We've used copper, florist wire, have heard pipe cleaners work, etc.  
Wire needs to be firm but somewhat bendable

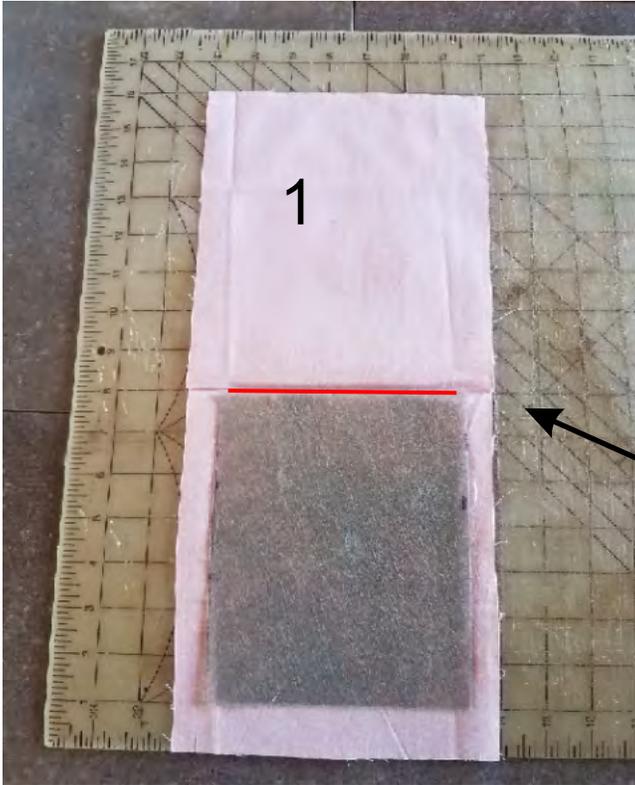
NOTE:  
First part is for elastic ear mask. Have included a tie string option & tips on the last page.

Have found men prefer the tie version - larger heads & no hair to tangle in the ties!

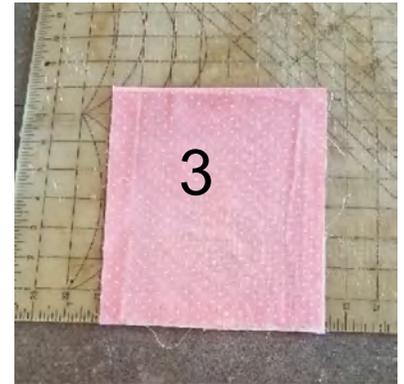
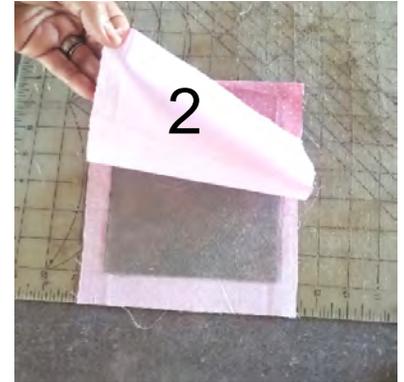


This pattern is made using a serger, mainly because it quickly seals edges and I have one. If you don't have a serger, suggested is to use standard methods to place right sides together, stitch & leave an opening to turn the mask square inside out. Make sure to have the interfacing align on the fold.

1. Fold fabric in half, right side out. Place interfacing / fabric on fold line. Three steps:



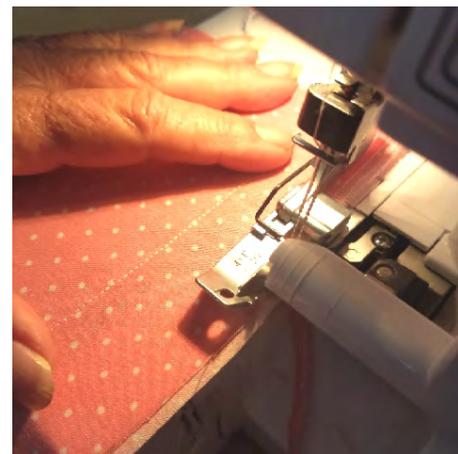
You will place your wire right at the fold on the top of the mask. Wire is illustrated in red in the photo to the left.



Place top of interfacing / filter on the fold, center with about 1/2 inch of fabric to the right & left. Press.

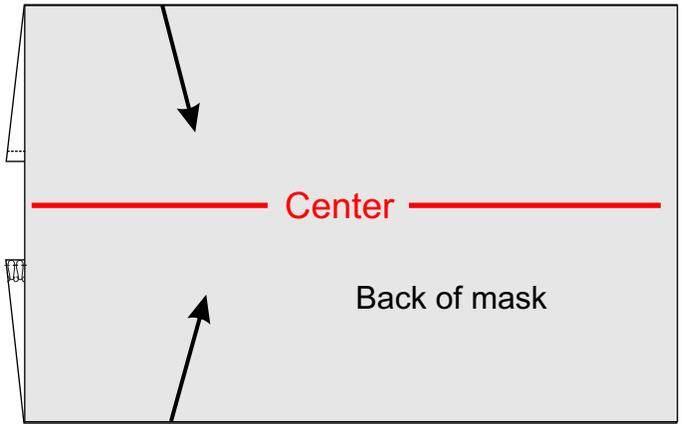
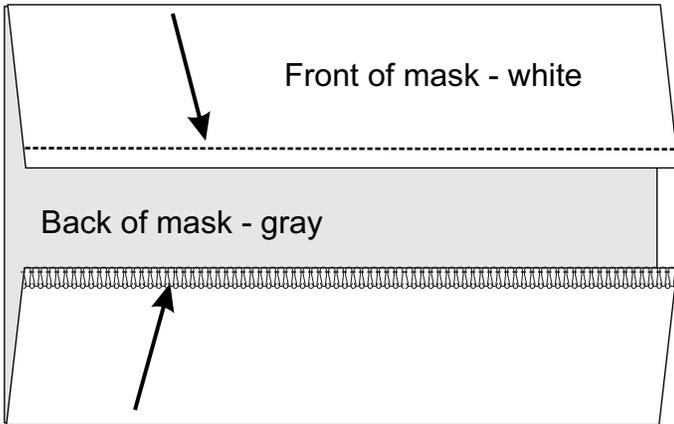
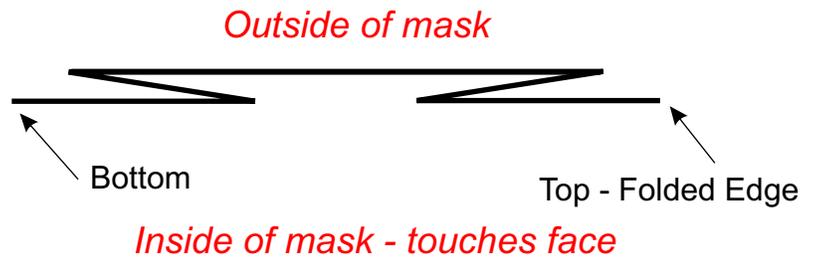


2. Regular sewing machine: Stitch 1/4" from the folded edge to secure the fabric / interfacing. This is where the wire will be inserted & centered later.



3. Serger: Serge the bottom edge. Go to your ironing board.

5. You will be making a pleat, folding in as illustrated to the right.



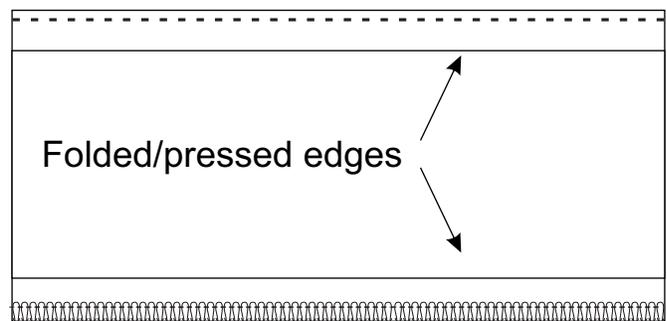
6. Fold about 1.25 inches from the top & bottom edges toward the center of the mask. Press.

7. Flip the mask to the back. Match the folded edges at the center.

### Back of mask



### Front of mask



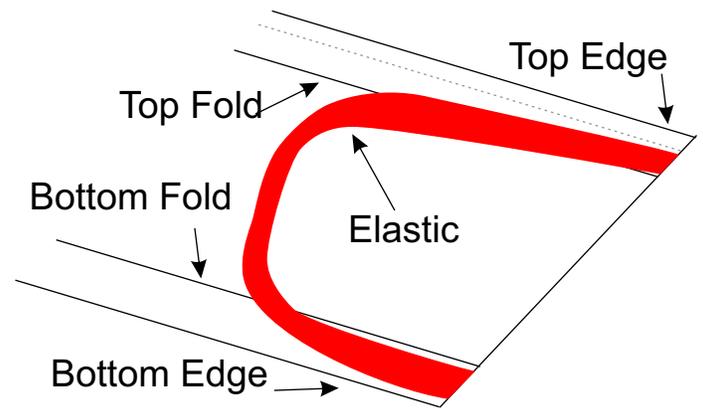
8. Press.



9. Flip mask to the front. Make sure there's enough space - about 1/2 inch - from the top edge & the folded edge to place ear elastic. If not, adjust the folds & press again.



10. Insert the wire into the top fold pocket & center in the mask.



11. To the serger: See below for elastic placement. You will place an elastic on each side. Place one end of your 7" elastic on the raw edge of the mask, aligned just above the pleat fold & below the edge.



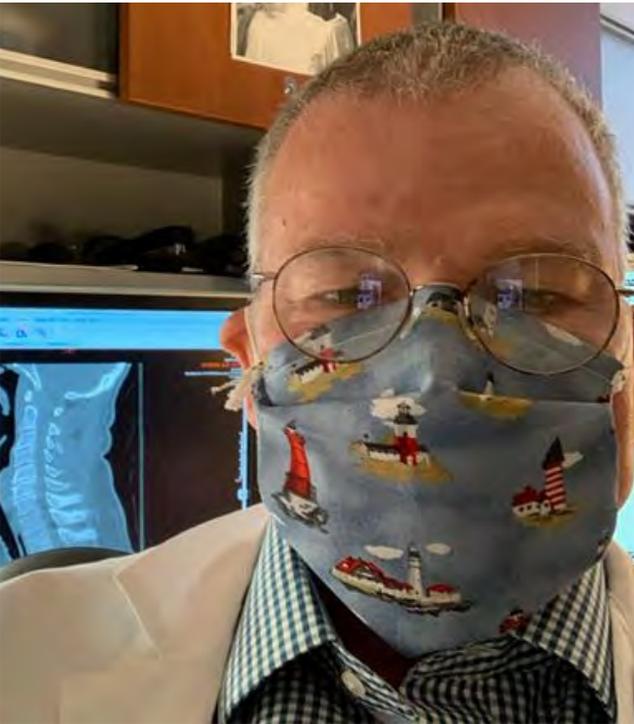
12. Place the elastic adjacent to the top & bottom folds. Serge.



13. When you attach the bottom of the elastic, make sure the elastic is not twisted & will lie as flat as possible when placed on a face. Attach elastic to other side of mask in the same manner.

**NOTE:** You can assemble & run a number of masks, one after another, using your serger. Attach elastic to one side of a stack of prepared masks, then turn & run the opposite side, one after another, to attach the second elastic to the opposite side.

## Finished Mask



## How To Use & Wear Mask

- Clean your hands before putting on the mask
- Cover mouth & nose with the mask.
- Wire is on the top of the mask – use it to adjust to the bridge of your nose & below your eyes on your face.
- Place elastic loops over your ears to hold mask in place.
- Open the folds of the mask to cover your mouth to below your chin.
- Try to have the sides of the mask fit as snugly as possible to your cheeks.
- Remove mask from the ears first, try not to touch the front of the mask.

Instructions to tuck into your masks are available on our website: [www.foldedstarornaments.com](http://www.foldedstarornaments.com)

### Notes:

As a former Operating Room RN, this mask design is based on my favorite used back in the day. In the Operating room, you work for hours wearing a mask & the most covering & comfortable masks were the most popular. This design was always the first one that seasoned OR personnel chose.

After making over 500 masks, we've revised our original pattern slightly, as we figured out easier ways to get things done.

As an example, folding & pressing was a learn as you go & what worked best. Think we've got it nailed!

Supplies - ran out of elastic in the second week of making masks.

We are successfully using swimwear spandex fabric - had some & gave it a try. Works great!

We cut it into 5 1/2 in by 1/2 inch strips. Much softer than elastic too!.

# Ties

- Cut two 1 1/2 inch strips of fabric 32 inches long
- Fold wrong sides together, press
- Mark the center of the tie (16 inches from end).
- Match center of tie to center of mask, raw edges together. Pin tie in place on mask at the center mark.
- Start serging at the top end of the tie, continue to the mask & serge through all layers.
- Continue serging to the end of the tie.
- Repeat for second side of mask

## Back to sewing machine:

Stitch folded edge of ties in place on both sides of mask (red line in illustration), backstitching at each end.

## Note:

Men seem to prefer these as they have larger heads & the ties don't interfere with their hair.

If you run out of elastic, this is a great option too. You can make long strings with just the cut scraps when you make your mask, fold, serge & off you go. When I ran out of elastic, is what I did!

