

# Covid-19

## Choosing the right mask for you

### Homemade - Washable



#### The types of fabrics used

100% Cotton T-Shirt	69.4%
Scarf	62.3%
Pillowcase	61.3%
Silk	58.0%

The goal of wearing face coverings is to minimize the spread from people who have COVID-19, but show no symptoms yet or from those that are actively infected and symptomatic. Put another way, **wearing fabric or homemade masks isn't likely to protect you**, but can help protect others and may help slow the spread from those that are symptomatic, too.

Less effective at protecting the wearer because most have gaps near the nose, cheeks, and jaw where tiny droplets can be inhaled. Also, the fabric is often porous and can't keep out tiny droplets.

### 3-Ply Civilian



Masks are loose fitting, covering the nose and mouth. Designed for one-way protection, to capture bodily fluid leaving the wearer.

Example – worn during surgery to prevent coughing, sneezing, etc on the vulnerable patient

**Contrary to belief, masks are NOT designed to protect the wearer**

The vast majority of masks do not have a safety rating assigned to them (e.g. NIOSH or EN)

### KN95/FFP2 Respirators



Respirators are tight-fitting masks, designed to create a facial seal

Respirators provide good **two-way protection**, by filtering both inflow and outflow of air

KN95/FFP2 masks have a **minimum of 94% filtration** and maximum 8% leakage to the inside. They are mainly used by healthcare professionals against influenza viruses. They are currently **recommended by the WHO** (World Health Organisation) as means of protection against the coronavirus.