



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

NICD Communications



COVID-19 GUIDELINES ON FABRIC FACE MASKS



The idea of wearing a fabric face mask when going to public areas is now a reality, and many people are now finding their feet with the do's and don'ts of fabric face mask etiquette. The National Department of Health Minister, Zweli Mkhize, recommended that South Africans wear three-layered fabric face masks when in public.

To learn more about fabric face masks and to ensure that you are well protected to make an informed purchase, please click [here](#) to read the guidelines on the proper use of a mask. Furthermore, click [here](#) to read the guidelines on the requirements for manufacturing a fabric face mask.

Wearing a mask in public places can help slow the spread of the coronavirus, but other hygiene measures such as sufficient hand wash and social distancing are also crucial.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, such as shortness of breath, dry cough and fever (38 °C and above) please contact your healthcare practitioner immediately.

More information on COVID-19:

- Whatsapp "Hi" to 0600 123 456
- Dial the toll-free number: 0800 029 999
- Visit www.nicd.ac.za

"The greatest compassion is the prevention of human suffering through patience, alertness, courage and kindness."

— Amit Ray, *Walking the Path of Compassion*

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