

SEW IN THIS TOGETHER

Creativity knows no bounds.



In the sewing community, we always have a way of coming together to help when it matters most. As sewists, one thing we can do to help is to sew and donate homemade masks. Homemade masks are not considered PPE (personal protective equipment) by the CDC as their capability to protect against viruses such as COVID-19 is unknown, but some say they can be used over an N95 mask or for lesser critical needs.

Written by Stephanie Struckmann

Supplies:

Outer and Lining Fabric

- ¼ Yard of 100% Tightly Woven Cotton Fabric (washed and dried to pre-shrink – very important!)

Filter Pocket Fabric

- ¼ Yard of 100% Tightly Woven Cotton Fabric (washed and dried to pre-shrink – very important!)

4 straps (preferred method)

- 2 ¼ Yards of ½" Double Fold pre-made bias tape (20" per strap) **OR** 2 ¼ yards of 2" cut bias fabric (20" per strap)

OR 2 Elastic Loops

- Two 6" pieces of ¼" elastic (or smaller for kids)

Wire Casing

- 7" of one of the following:
 - ¼" Double Fold Bias Tape (pre-made)
 - ½" Single Fold Bias Tape (pre-made)
 - 1.5" wide bias fabric strip

Wire

- To shape the mask around the nose, one of the following:
 - 1.5"-2" of 26-gauge or higher wire (just not too thick), florist wire, clean paper clips
 - 5" to 6" plastic covered twisty ties, or pipe cleaners

Tools:

Baby Lock Sewing Machine

Basic Sewing Supplies

Pinking Shears (Optional)

Pliers/Cutters for wire (Optional)

Cutting and Preparation:

1. **Outer and Lining** – Cut 2 outer and 2 lining pieces with Pattern Piece A.
2. **Filter Pocket** – Cut 2 from Pattern Piece B.
3. **Straps** –
 - ✂ If cutting ¼" **Double Fold** or ½" **Single Fold (pre-made) Bias Tape** for straps – cut FOUR 20" strips.
 - ✂ If **cutting bias/straight of grain fabric strips** for straps, cut FOUR 2" x 20" straps on the bias for adults or 2" x 18" on bias for children. Press in half lengthwise, then open and press raw edges to the center. Fold on the center crease and press again, enclosing raw edges.
 - ✂ If cutting **elastic** for loop straps, cut 6" for adults or 5" for children.
4. **Wire Casing** –
 - ✂ If using ¼" **Double Fold** or ½" **Single Fold Bias Tape (pre-made)**, cut 7" for adults or 5" for child sizes. ¼" Double Fold will need to be pressed open once (leaving the raw edges inward). On either bias tape type, you'll want to completely open up both ends (about an inch down) and press down a ½" in down. Then, press the long sides back into place.



- ✂ If using **fabric**, cut **strips on the bias/straight of grain** at 1.5" x 7" for adults or 1.5" x 5" for child sizes. Press a ½" in along the long

edge and then, press in the other long, raw edge in a $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Trim raw edges down a bit to eliminate some bulk and so that the allowances are not overlapping each other.

5. Wire –

✂ Cut 6" of wire for adult sizes and 4" of wire for children sizes (will cut to size when complete. Or use a 2" (approx.) paper clip for adult sizes or 1.5" (approx.) paper clip for a child. Bend open paper clip to straight.

Instructions:

6. **Let's get sewing!** Stitch the curves on all pattern sets for A and B (outer, lining, and filter pocket).



7. Clip your curves. You can also use pinking shears to accomplish this same task – it will also eliminate fraying (which is especially beneficial for the filter pocket).



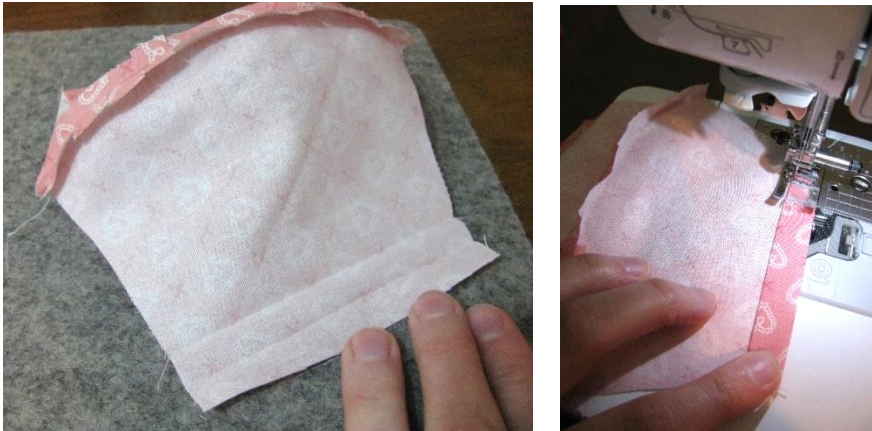
8. Press open seam on all 3 (outer, lining, and filter).
9. Mark $\frac{3}{8}$ " down from the top edge of the outer fabric 3" over from center in both directions.



10. Align the center of the wire casing with the center seam of the mask and along the marked line. Topstitch closely to the edge of the bias, leaving one short end open to insert wire later.



11. Then, take the filter pocket and fold and press in a $\frac{1}{2}$ " twice on both straight sides to create a $\frac{1}{2}$ " rolled hem. Stitch along the edge of the fold to secure rolled hem in place.



12. Now, place the filter pocket wrong-side-to-right-side to the lining, matching centers (may need to temporarily pin to hold in place for the next step).



13. Place the outer and lining/pocket right-sides-together, pinning the top and bottom curves of the mask (with the filter pocket sandwiched in between).



14. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance along both edges. Clip your curves. Turn the mask right-side-out with the filter pocket on the inside with the lining. Press.



15. Press both raw edge sides in a $\frac{1}{2}$ ".



16. If using bias fabric straps, stitch along the long open edges of all 4 straps. Insert a $\frac{1}{2}$ " into each corner of the mask and stitch closely along the edge around the entire mask, reinforcing the corners where the straps are inserted by backstitching.



17. If using elastic loops instead of straps, insert a $\frac{1}{2}$ " of elastic into each corner, looping the elastic down to reach the bottom corner on each side (make sure it's not twisted)! Stitch closely along the edge around the entire mask, reinforcing (backstitching) the corners where the elastic is inserted.
18. Straighten the wire as best as you can. Turn one end of the wire under tightly (preferably with pliers).



19. Insert the curled end into the casing. Mark the length where you need to cut the wire. Cut the wire (with wire cutters) and curl the other end in. Place the wire into the casing. Do not stitch the opening closed. This is left open to remove the wire for sanitizing the wire and washing the mask.



20. The completed mask looks like this.



Donation Tip!

Safety pin a little note including the following:

- Size of the mask.
- These masks are machine washable.
- There is a filter pocket to where an approved filter can be placed (filter not included).
- The wire is removable for sanitizing and washing!
- An encouraging quote or message

2020 Baby Lock USA. **This mask is NOT medical grade and does not serve as a replacement for real medical supplies including N95 masks that are approved for medical use, but with a shortage of supplies, some clinics are able to use basic masks like these in combination with N95 masks or for lesser medical conditions. Please contact your local health officials to inquire about their needs for homemade masks and the requirements that need to be met. This pattern and tutorial created therefrom is not intended, nor has it been tested, to reduce or eliminate the transmission of any respiratory or airborne pathogen, allergen, or any type of particle or droplet, and on that basis, should not be used solely for such purpose.**

This project may be freely used by individuals for non-commercial purposes. Project instructions may not be sold or without approval from Baby Lock. Baby Lock must be acknowledged as the source of the project instructions



FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING

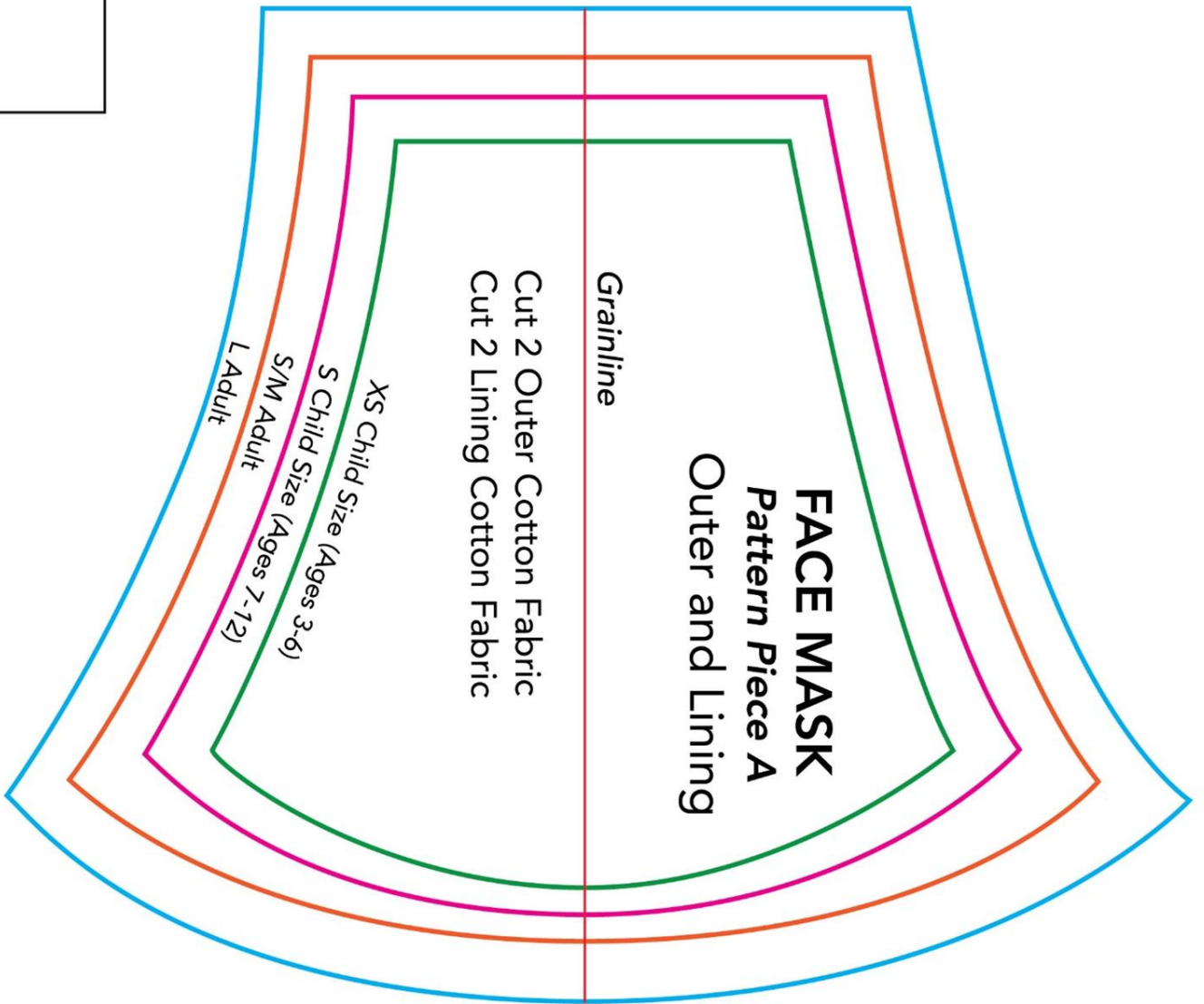
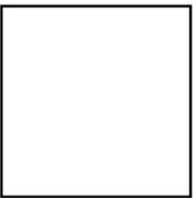
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FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING

Check that this is printed to scale.
This square should print 1" x 1" in size



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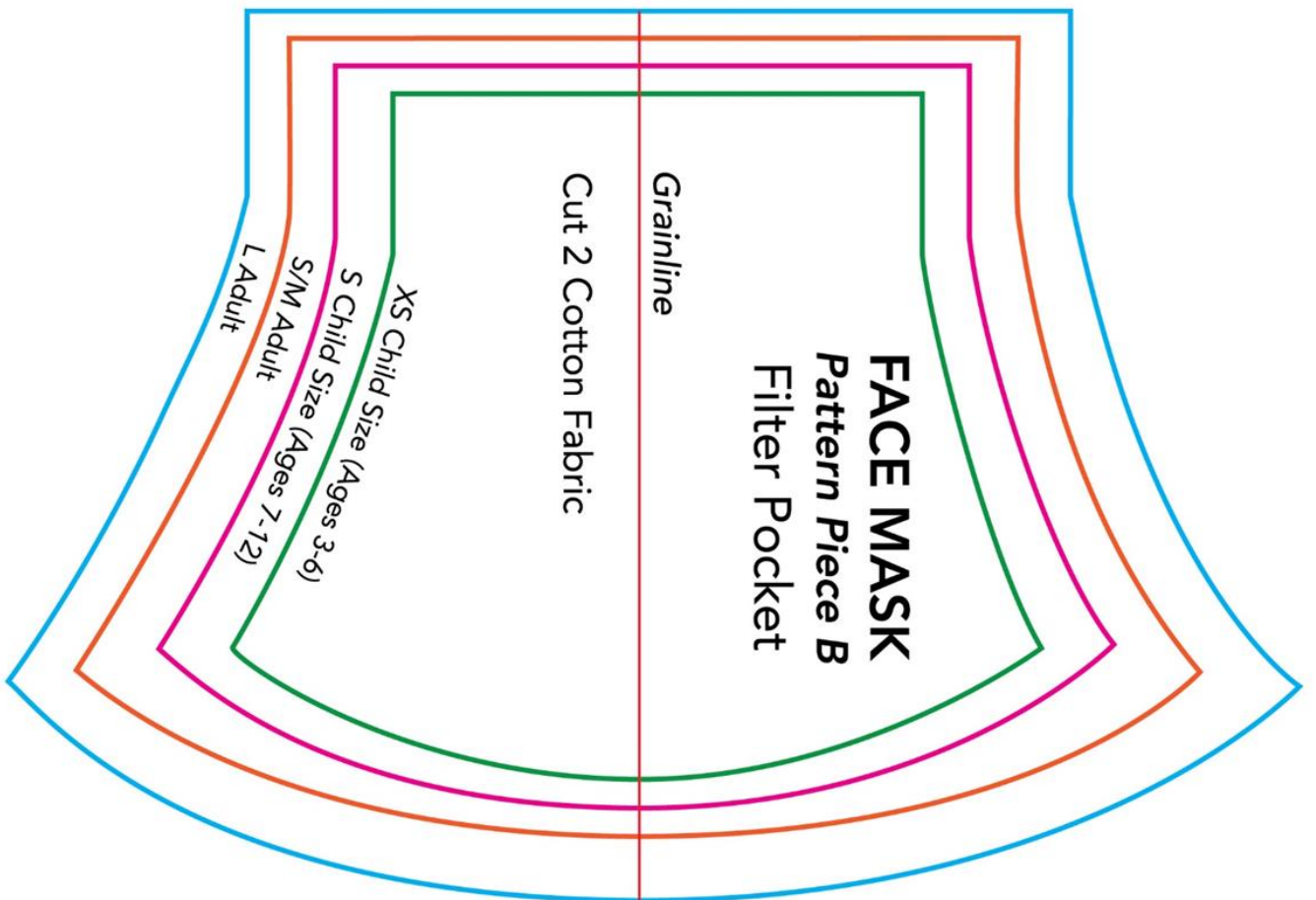
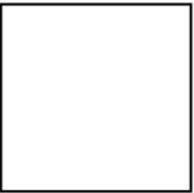
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Additional ways to make the straps for face masks using Baby Lock Accessories!

Create Your own Bias Strips :

If you have a Baby Lock 8-thread serger and some fun attachments, you can create your own bias straps with either the $\frac{3}{4}$ " Belt Loop Binder (BLE8-S12) using a Chain Stitch or the 36mm Double Fold Bias Binder (BLE8-S2) using the Chain/Cover Stitch attachments!

Attaching Binding using Accessories:

You can also apply bias completely along the top and bottom edges with the 36mm Double Fold Bias Binder (BLE8-S2) attachment for a Baby Lock 8-thread serger or with the Adjustable Bias Binder Foot (ESG-ABB) for sewing. Both would follow same steps as below. **Keep in mind, this will make the mask one size larger than you cut out.**

1. After you've stitched, clipped, and pressed the curves, you'll mark $\frac{5}{8}$ " down (instead of $\frac{3}{8}$ ") to align and stitch the wire casing.



2. Then, you'll layer the outer, lining, and pocket (sides already hemmed) as they would appear when completed. Pin around the top and bottom raw edges even, matching centers.
3. Fold in a $\frac{1}{2}$ " on the outer and lining at the sides and press. Baste the raw edges of the top and bottom of the mask about a $\frac{1}{4}$ " in. Then, go back to a standard stitch and top stitch along the sides to secure.



4. Mark the center of the bias and place the raw edges of the mask within the bias tape, aligning the centers, pin (or use Wonder Clips for serging) in a couple places to hold the bias in place until you get to the attachment.
5. Then, place one end of the bias tape into the foot or attachment (depending on which attachment you are using – sewing or serging) and stitch all the way down (use a chain stitch on the serger; to eliminate excess thread against the nose). Repeat for the second-long edge.



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FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING

A few things to know:

- The wire above the nose can be removed and replaced.
- This is machine washable!
- You will need to insert a filter in the pocket.

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