



# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask

## DISCLAIMER

Created for Crisis does not recommend the use of these homemade facemasks when surgical masks or N95 respirators are available. These should only be used in non-surgical settings when the healthcare provider (HCP) will be more than 3 feet from a symptomatic patient OR within 3 feet of symptomatic patient wearing a surgical facemask. HCPs should NOT use these when there is:

- Significant exposure to liquid, bodily, or other hazardous fluids
- A high level of infection risk through inhalation exposure
- A high-intensity heat sources or flammable gases

### WARNINGS:

- These homemade facemasks are not surgical masks or Filtering Facepiece Respirators (FFRs).
- These face masks have not been tested for fluid resistance, particulate or bacteria filtration efficiency, differential pressure, or flammability.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommend monitoring the CDC website below for the latest updates regarding the respirator shortage:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/crisis-alternate-strategies.html>

See [www.createdforcrisis.org/labelingandsafety](http://www.createdforcrisis.org/labelingandsafety) for more information.

## IMPORTANT NOTE ON MASK FRONT VS. BACK

For safety reasons, the mask wearer **MUST** be able to identify the front and back of the mask at a glance. With this in mind, use either patterned fabric or two distinct colors. **If using patterned fabric:** the finished mask will have the “wrong” side of the fabric facing out on one side. **If using solid fabric:** the two sides will be clearly different colors.

The instructions assume patterned fabric is used to assist in managing “right” and “wrong” sides, but solid fabric is also acceptable.



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## SUPPLIES

- Cotton/poly blend of at least 50% cotton is preferred, 100% cotton is acceptable. (Print or two distinct solids)
- All-purpose thread (polyester)
- *Optional: premade bias tape or binding tape, no larger than 1/2"*

## EQUIPMENT

- sewing machine
- ruler
- iron & ironing board
- scissors
- assembled pattern
- pleat guide (included)

## PREPARATION

- **Prewash ALL fabric** on hot and dry on hot.
- Cut according to the following measurements:
- Ties - cut 4 - 2" x 20" (If using bias tape, cut four 20" long pieces)
- Mask - Cut according to pattern  
Mask A will be the inner piece, and is shorter  
Mask B will be the outer piece, and is longer

Seam allowance is 1/4" unless stated otherwise. Instructions assume patterned fabric.

**See Process Guide for cleaning and packing guidelines**



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## DIRECTIONS

1. With the wrong side facing up, press 1/4" fold on one end of the tie. Then fold the ties in half lengthwise, right side out (wrong sides together) and press to create a crease.
2. For each tie, fold long sides in so raw edges meet at the crease in the center. Refold on crease, resulting in a total width of about 1/2". Press.
3. Stitch along the open edges of the tie, along the length and the one folded end. (If using bias tape, stitch along the length to close long edges.)
4. Take piece A and lay it right side up. Turn down 1/2" and press. Turn down another 1/2" and press again. Stitch along the open edge of the hem.
5. Take piece B and lay it wrong side up, with the shorter edge along the top. Turn down 1/2", press, turn down another 1/2" and press again. Stitch along the open edge of the hem.
6. Flip piece B over and lay it right side up. Align the raw edge of the tie with the raw edge of the fabric, centering the tie ends on the marks transferred from the pattern, and baste. The loose ends of the ties should come toward the middle of the fabric.
7. Now the two pieces will be sewn together. Take piece B with the ties attached, still facing right side up, and gather the ties to the centre to get them out of the way.
8. Fold down the flap along the line shown by the pattern, matching the notch. The top ties will be sandwiched in the fold. Pin in place.
9. Lay the piece A on top, with the right side facing up and the finished hem along the top. The hem of piece A should sit around 1/4" beneath the fold at the top of piece B. It should not match exactly.
10. Sew with a 1/4" seam allowance around the sides and bottom of the mask.
11. Clip the corners of the mask, taking care not to cut the stitching.
12. Turn the mask right side out through the pocket at the top of the mask. Pull on the top ties to bring the flap to the outside, covering the pocket. Press.
13. From the right side of the mask (the side without the pocket opening) topstitch 1/8" around the entire mask, taking care not to catch the pocket opening.
14. Lay the mask so the ties are at the sides, the top of the mask will be facing away from you and right side of the fabric up. Mark the pleats according to the pleat template by laying the template on the mask, lining up the top edge of the template with the top edge of the mask, centering it left to right. Mark pleat lines on the fabric on both sides of the mask.
15. To form a knife pleat, find pairs of markings that are 1 1/4" apart and fold down so that those markings line up. All pleats should open towards the bottom of the mask, with the bulk on the back pressed towards the top. The final pleat should **not** fall over your bottom ties. Pin in place and press. *(Be careful not to press over the pins, as this can damage your iron.)*
16. Edgestitch around the whole mask again. This strengthens the construction and secures the pleats. If you have tried the techniques on the tips page and your machine is still struggling, you may alternately topstitch 1/4" on the **sides and bottom** only.  
CHECK to make sure the pocket fully opens.

SEE TIPS ON NEXT PAGE



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## TIPS

### **If you are having trouble visualizing how to form the pleats:**

Fold the pleat template as directed by the arrows on the pattern piece. The pleats should open towards the bottom of the mask, and the bulk of the pleat on the back should be folded towards the top of the mask.

To check that your pleats are facing the right way, run a finger from the bottom of the template to the top, if it slides under a pleat, you have folded correctly. You can do the same to double check the pleats on your mask in step 15.

### **If you are having trouble sewing through the bulk of the pleats, there are a couple of methods to help:**

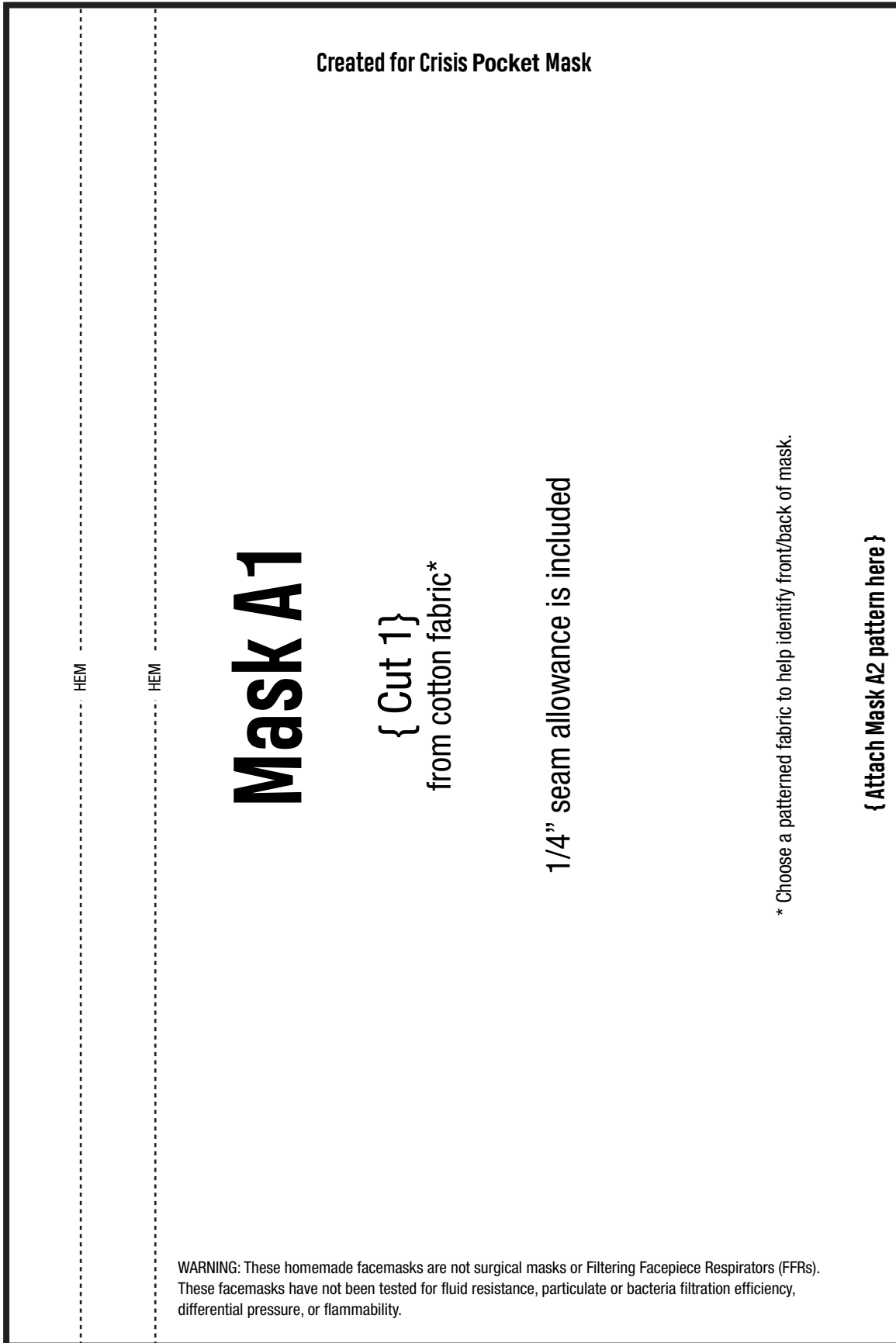
Slow the speed of your sewing and press firmly on the pleat, compressing it and helping it through your machine, taking care not to slide the pleat around.

If your machine is pushing the pleats out of place, instead of sewing around all four sides of the mask in one step, you can sew it in parts. Sew down the pleats with the fold facing towards you. When you get to the side where the pleats face away from you, stop and sew from the other direction so you are always sewing with the pleats and not against them.

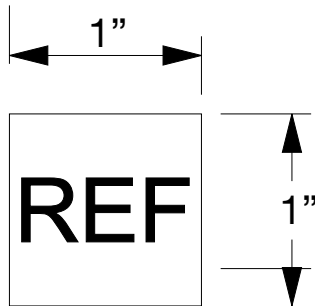
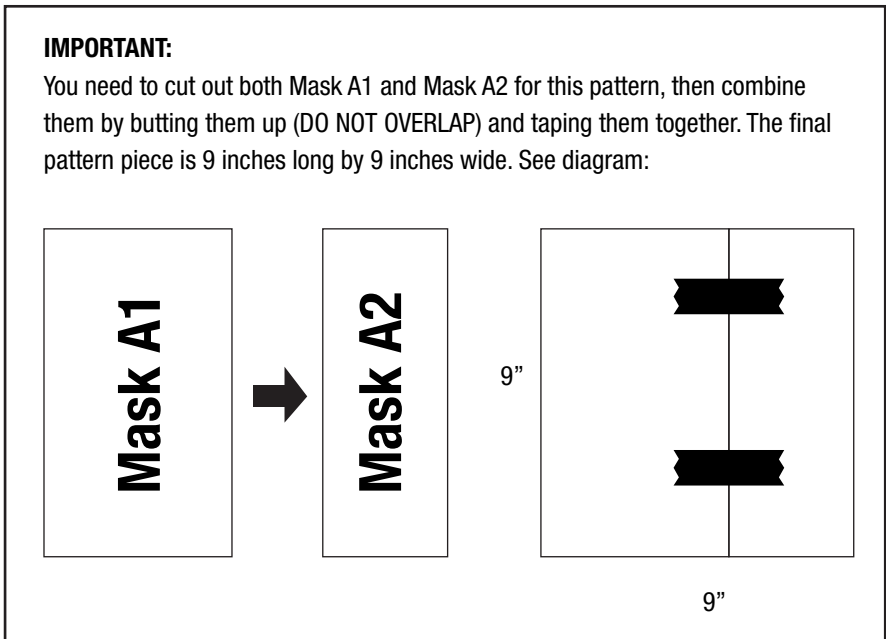
Instead of using the foot pedal, use the handwheel on your machine to sew, taking care not to **force** your machine but to be able to feed the fabric through in a controlled fashion over the problem areas.

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**BEFORE YOU CUT FABRIC:** You need to cut out both Mask A1 and Mask A2 for this pattern, then combine them by butting them up (DO NOT OVERLAP) and taping them together. The final pattern piece is 9 inches long by 9 inches wide. See diagram on next page.



# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask



**IMPORTANT:**  
Print at 100% scale.  
Check that this box measures 1" x 1" before proceeding.

**IF THIS BOX IS NOT 1" X 1":**  
Make sure "Fit to page" is not selected in print dialogue.

# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask

**BEFORE YOU CUT FABRIC:** You need to cut out both Mask B1 and Mask B2 for this pattern, then combine them by butting them up (DO NOT OVERLAP) and taping them together. The final pattern piece is 10 1/2 inches long by 9 inches wide. See diagram on next page.



Tie



Tie

Created for Crisis Pocket Mask

HEM

HEM

## Mask B1

{ Cut 1 }  
from cotton fabric\*

1/4" seam allowance is included

\* Choose a patterned fabric to help identify front/back of mask.

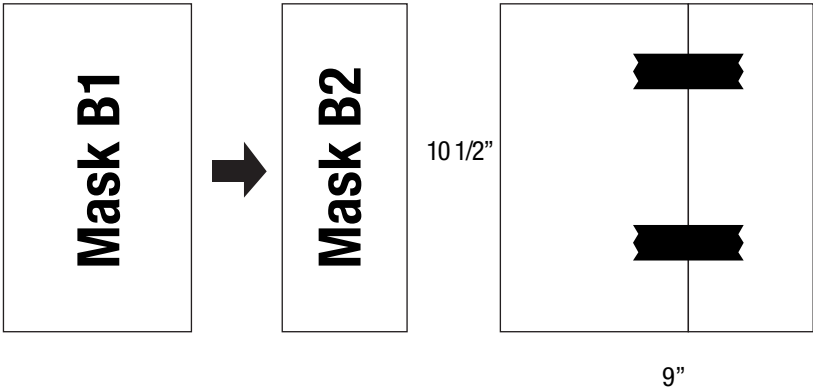
WARNING: These homemade facemasks are not surgical masks or Filtering Facepiece Respirators (FFRs). These facemasks have not been tested for fluid resistance, particulate or bacteria filtration efficiency, differential pressure, or flammability.

{ Attach Mask B2 pattern here }

# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask

**IMPORTANT:**

You need to cut out both Mask A and Mask B for this pattern, then combine them by butting them up (DO NOT OVERLAP) and taping them together. The final pattern piece is 10 1/2 Inches long by 9 inches wide. See diagram:



{ Attach Mask B1 pattern here }

# Mask B2

Tie ●

Tie ●



# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask

{ Match This Line With Mask Top }

2"

## Pleat Template

1 1/4"



Pleat 1



3/4"



Pleat 2



1 1/4"

3/4"



Pleat 3

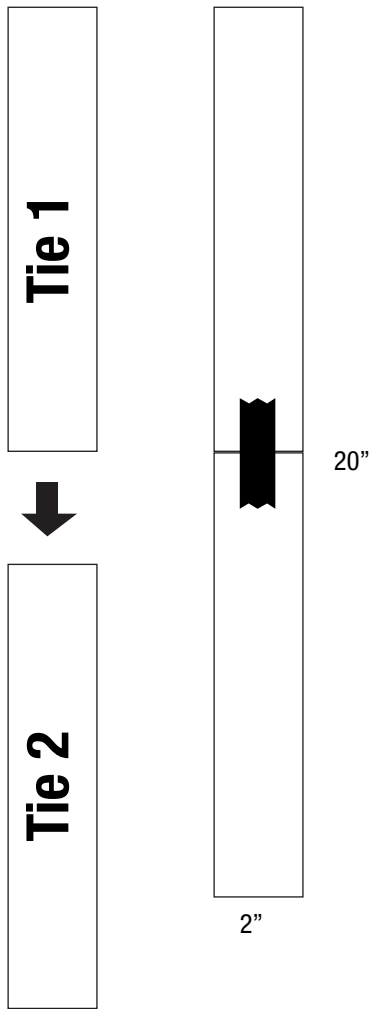


1 1/4"

# Created for Crisis Pocket Mask Pattern

## IMPORTANT:

You need to cut out both Tie 1 and Tie 2 on this page, then combine them by butting them up and taping them together. The final pattern piece is 20 inches long by 2 inches wide. See diagram:



{ Attach Tie 2 pattern here }

**Tie 1 of 2**

Created for Crisis 3-Layer Mask (Large)

1. Cut out pattern, tape Tie 1 to Tie 2 to create a 20 inch by 2 inch tie pattern
2. Cut 4 from cotton (AFTER combining tie pattern pieces)

**Tie 2 of 2**

{ Attach Tie 1 pattern here }



# Process Guide

## CLEANING GUIDELINES

### FOR EVERYONE:

- 1) **Wash your hands!** Wash hands before handling materials or making masks. When handling donations, wash hands both BEFORE and AFTER to minimize your own exposure risk as well as that of the next person in the supply chain.
- 2) **Place all donations into sealed plastic bags!** This minimizes contamination during travel.
- 3) **Social distancing!** Stay six feet from others and practice not touching your face, eyes, and mouth

### FOR MAKERS:

**We recommend consolidating donations with others to minimize the number of individuals going to donation collection sites.**

- 1) Wash hands before working on masks and before returning to them after breaks.
- 2) Work with clean, pre-washed fabrics.
- 3) Wash the completed homemade masks on a HIGH temperature (preferably at least 158°F or 60°C) standard wash cycle using standard laundry detergent. Dry on high temperature.
- 2) Remove masks from dryer with clean or gloved hands. Place directly into a clean, sealable plastic bag.

### FOR COLLECTION SITES:

- 1) Place receiving box in a clearly visible location. Outside is ideal to and avoid person to person contact and maintain cleanliness inside of your facility.
- 2) Wash hands BEFORE and AFTER handling donations to store at your location until collected by a volunteer.
- 3) Volunteers will contact you to set up a collection time. Place donations at the pick-up location, preferably outside, for the volunteer to collect. Allow volunteers to do this by themselves if possible. If this is not possible, maintain 6ft distance at all times.

## PACKING GUIDELINES

- 1) **Box:** All homemade facemasks must be distributed in a plain paper box such as a corrugated cardboard box.
- 2) **Outer Labeling:** The box must not make any content indications or claims beyond the Masks Now logo. The use of the words “mask”, “facemask”, “surgical”, “protective”, or any other related term must not appear on the outer box.
- 3) **Packing Materials:** Packing materials such as tissue paper or packing paper may be used to prevent damage to the face masks but should be limited where possible.
- 4) **Packing Slip:** The Packing Slip must be completed in full in indelible ink (such as pen) in legible handwriting and provided within every shipping container. Where colored printing is not available, black & white is acceptable, provided all content is fully legible.

#MasksNOW



# Thank you

In this unprecedented moment in history, we thank you for your commitment to the well-being of our community, nation, and world at large. Please accept these masks as a token of our gratitude for your immeasurable dedication.

## THIS PACKAGE CONTAINS \_\_\_\_\_ ITEMS

ITEM STYLE:  3-Layer Mask  Pocket Mask  Mask Cover

MADE WITH LOVE BY:

## MATERIALS USED

BACK LAYER (BODY CONTACTING LAYER):

- 100% Cotton
- Cotton/Polyester Blend
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

MIDDLE LAYER: (IF USED)

- Pellon 830
- 100% polyester non-woven interfacing
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

FRONT LAYER:

- 100% Cotton
- Cotton/Polyester Blend
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## MASK CARE

**BEFORE DISTRIBUTION:** Homemade masks should be washed after every use, or as frequently as possible. Wash the homemade mask on a HIGH temperature (preferably at least 158°F or 60°C) standard wash cycle using standard laundry detergent. Dry on high temperature.

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