



Facial Coverings Will Be Mandatory Statewide



Gov. Jay Inslee and Secretary of Health John Wiesman announced a statewide mandatory face covering **order that will take effect Friday, June 26.**

Starting Friday, every Washingtonian must wear a facial covering when in a public space, as mandated by the public health order signed by Wiesman. This includes both indoor and outdoor public spaces. Masks will not be required outdoors when people can stay more than 6 feet apart from each other, while indoors at home with others, or while alone in a vehicle.

As with previous orders, there will be specific exemptions for those who may be adversely impacted by wearing a facial covering. These exemptions include those with certain medical conditions and children under the age of two, who should not wear a face covering. While children under 5 are exempt, the order recommends kids between the ages of 3 and 5 wear facial coverings.

In addition, individuals may remove face coverings under certain circumstances, including while eating or drinking at a restaurant or while communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing.

To read more about this recent order, visit the Governor's site at: <https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-statewide-mask-mandate>



Here are some tips on the property way to use masks.

PUTTING IT ON

- With clean hands, fit the mask to cover your mouth, nose and chin.
- Secure it tightly to minimize gaps between your face and the mask.
- Once it's on, do not touch or adjust it. Wash your hands.

REMOVAL

- Handling only the straps, untie or unloop your mask from behind and pull it away from your face. Do not touch the front of the mask, your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Immediately throw the mask in the laundry, or the trash if it's intended for single use. Wash your hands.

DO's and DON'T's

DO: Make sure your mask covers your face snugly but comfortably.

DO: Remove and dispose of paper masks and other personal protective equipment, such as gloves, in the garbage before you get into your car or home.

DO: To avoid cross-contamination, consider carrying a separate bag to put your soiled mask in if you are going to bring it home to launder.

DO: Always wash your hands before and after handling your mask.

DON'T: Don't pull your mask down. If you touch it, wash your hands and put on a clean one.

DON'T: Don't continue to use your mask if it gets damp. Replace it.

DON'T: Don't reuse single-use masks. Wear a fresh one every time.

DON'T: Don't wear medical masks or respirators, as those should be reserved for health care workers.