



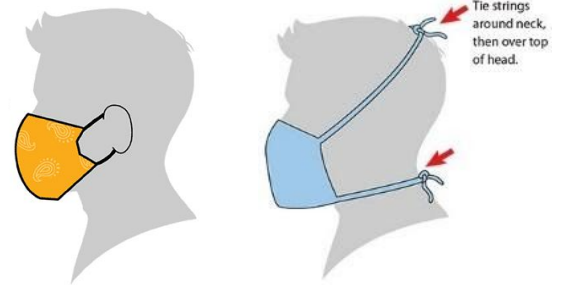
COVID-19 Face Covering Guidance

WHY WEAR A FACE COVERING

To slow the spread of COVID-19, [CDC recommends](#), and the [State of Rhode Island requires](#) wearing a face covering in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Brown requires that face coverings be worn indoors with very few exceptions. The University will provide individuals approved to be on campus with reusable face coverings. Individuals may use their own, provided that they meet these guidelines.

WHAT IS A FACE COVERING

- A face covering should:
 - Cover the nose and mouth, and be secured under the chin.
 - Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
 - Be secure with ties or ear loops.
 - Include multiple layers of fabric.
 - Allow breathing without restriction.
 - Be able to be washed and dried without damage or change to shape.
 - Not have an exhalation valve or vent, as these are not approved by Brown or recommended by CDC.
 - Not be a gaiter style covering, as they are not recommended by RI Dept of Health.
- A face covering is different from an N95 respirator or surgical mask.
- A procedural or surgical mask may also serve as a face covering.



WHEN TO WEAR A FACE COVERING

- While in all University buildings and while outside in public areas where social distancing may be difficult.
- While in the same area as other people. Continue to maintain social distancing and frequently clean surfaces.
- In public settings such as a grocery or other store, pharmacy or at an event.
- While using public transportation, using ride services, or in a shared University vehicle.

WHEN A FACE COVERING IS NOT NEEDED

- Driving solo to work.
- While outdoors maintaining social distancing. You must have a face covering available should you need it.
- When working alone in a laboratory or private office as long as there is no contact with others.
- While eating in approved locations while social distancing.

PUTTING ON, REMOVING AND WASHING A FACE COVERING

- Avoid touching the front or inside of the face covering as much as possible.
- Perform proper hand hygiene before putting it on, after removing it, or after adjusting.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth when removing.
- Do not put the face covering down on surfaces to prevent the potential spread of virus.
- [Wash and dry](#) reusable face coverings regularly.
- [Video demonstrating how to put on Brown-issued tied face coverings.](#)

CAUTION

- Social distancing, hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces are still important steps.
- Stay home if you are sick. A face covering does not allow you to be out in public if you are sick.
- Reserve [N95s](#) and surgical masks for healthcare workers, or for tasks that typically require their use.