



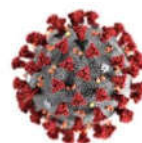
COVID-19 USE OF FACE COVERINGS

Objectives

- ✓ Inform employees of recent CDC guidelines pertaining to use of face coverings
- ✓ Learn what an appropriate face cover is
- ✓ Emphasize other CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19

Why is this important?

Keeping you informed of CDC recommendations supports our efforts in continuing to ensure your safety, both at work and when it is necessary for you to be out in public for essential needs. Your safety and that of your family remains JOI's top priority.



CDC GUIDELINES FOR USE OF FACE COVERINGS

CDC continues to study the spread and effects of COVID-19 across the United States. Recent studies indicate that some people with COVID-19 do not have any symptoms (referred to as being “asymptomatic”) and that some people who eventually develop symptoms (referred to as being “pre-symptomatic”) can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—e.g., speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not showing any symptoms.

In light of this new evidence, CDC *recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain* (for example, when you are at the grocery store or picking up medication at the pharmacy) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.



CDC is also advising the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure. Refer to the CDC website for more information on face covers:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FACE “MASKS” & FACE “COVERS”?

The cloth face coverings being recommended by CDC are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders who require that personal protective equipment (PPE). If your job tasks require the use of a face mask, we are continuing to provide that appropriate PPE to employees who must use them.



The face cover that the CDC is now recommending when social distancing is difficult to maintain can be made from cloth versus the material used for N95 face masks. Refer to the CDC website (above) with regard to appropriate face covers and how to use them properly.

FACE COVERS AT WORK

JOI has ordered thousands of face covers appropriate to comply with CDC recommendations and is expecting delivery in the next several weeks. In the meantime, should your job require interface with the public in which maintaining social distancing is difficult, please wear an appropriate face cover from home until you are provided one by your manager. Refer to the CDC website (above) for instructions on how you can make an appropriate face cover until you are issued one by your manager.

How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering

Cloth face coverings should—

- ✓ fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- ✓ be secured with ties or ear loops
- ✓ include multiple layers of fabric
- ✓ allow for breathing without restriction
- ✓ be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape



Important Reminders – Prevention Guidelines Still in Place

Please remember that the following **PREVENTION TIPS** should continue to be maintained on a consistent basis:

- ✓ Social Distancing (6 ft.)
- ✓ Avoid touching eyes/nose/mouth
- ✓ Cough/sneeze etiquette
- ✓ Clean & disinfect high touch surfaces & objects
- ✓ Wash hands often with soap & water, or use hand sanitizer (60%+ alcohol-based) if soap & water is not available
- ✓ Stay home when sick

SUMMARY

- CDC now recommends the use of face covers when social distancing (keeping at least 6 ft. away) in public settings is difficult to maintain.
- Face masks are different than face covers in that face covers can be made of cloth versus the material used for face masks (such as N95 respirators) which are considered PPE.
- Proper PPE will continue to be provided to those employees performing job tasks that require it.
- JOI has ordered thousands of face covers that will be distributed to employees *if your job duties requires you to wear one when working near the public and social distancing is difficult to maintain, per CDC guidelines.*
- The prevention tips should continue to be adhered to in order to assist in reducing contamination.
- Additional information regarding use of face covers and other important COVID-19 information can be easily accessed via the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov>
- The Best Defense Against the Virus is KNOWLEDGE!

KEEP INFORMED: Go to the **JOI Safety Website** to stay informed on relevant COVID-19 updates and other safety-related topics. **Log onto: safety.jobop.org**