

# Thank you very much for your purchase

## **General Mask Handling and Wearing Recommendations**

- O Always wash your hands or use a hand sanitiser prior to and after wearing a mask.
- O Adjust the mask to fit your face. Make sure the mask is covering your mouth, nose and chin. Use the ties/elastic for adjustments and the wire to make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.
- Avoid touching the front of the mask while you're wearing it. If you do, clean or sanitise your hands.
- o Remove the mask from behind. Avoid touching the front of the mask and store it carefully to avoid cross-contamination. Remember to clean and sanitise your hands.
- O Cotton is a natural fabric, and absorbs sweat and natural oils from the skin very easily. If possible, try not to wear it for a long period of time (max. 3 hours). Have multiple masks available if possible.
- o I recommend washing your mask after each use, if possible, steaming prior use.
- o For apartment-dwellers, put the mask on before leaving your apartment and remove upon return. Shared spaces of the building and lifts can be high-contamination areas.
- o If the mask is getting damp from sweat or prolonged exposure to breath, it should be replaced with a dry one and washed before use (see below).

**Do not have a false sense of security.** Although a mask helps to prevent the spread of contaminated droplets, it offers limited protection, and can only help when combined with hand washing and social distancing

#### **Care Instructions**

**Hand-washing is recommended for this product.** Hand-washing using soap or laundry detergent at the highest temperature you can stand will be adequate. Rinse thoroughly and wring-out carefully to protect the wire. You can also steam the mask by placing it in a sieve above a saucepan and steaming for approx. 5 minutes with a lid on (please note that this will sanitise it, but not clean it). Make sure you open the folds when washing it.

Machine washing is not recommended due to the mask's wire, and the exposure to other contaminants. It is much quicker and simpler to hand wash.

**Ironing is advisable.** Iron the mask on the outside, preferably while it is still damp. Use a cotton (high temperature) setting and steam. Cotton blends, should be ironed on a low or medium heat. **DO NOT IRON the elastic.** 

## Masks with antibacterial lining

Do not iron the lining, it would stick to the iron. Only press the outside material of the mask and avoid the elastic.

When washing the mask, it is recommend washing it separately or with similar colours. This will protect other fabrics from becoming discoloured by any extra dye left on the fabric during manufacture.

### **Adding Filters**

The masks have a pocket for an additional filter to be inserted for extra protection. Please note, that you can wear the mask without the filter. If you wish to insert a filter, cut a piece of filter material and insert into the pocket of the mask. For the filter, you can use non-woven material such as interfacing (non-iron), Melt-blown non-woven or dried baby wipes or even kitchen roll tissues. Make sure to BIN the filter material after each use and replace it with a new one.

### How to put a mask on & off

Masks with elastic ear ties: These masks come with elastic which ties behind the ears to fit your face. These are a bit easier to put on and take off. Before first use knot the ends of elastic on each side adjusting for size. Then loop the elastic behind your ears, open up the mask and adjust the wire to fit around your nose. Avoid touching the front of the mask (especially during, or straight after wearing it), always remove your mask by the elastic loops.

#### *N.B.*

These masks are not a replacement for surgical or clinical masks and are not clinically certified. Masks are there to help create a barrier for water droplets and dust and are a preventative measure. Elastics/ties on the masks can be replaced but might be fiddly to do. Please note that no returns or refunds are accepted.