Snug fit face mask with a filter pocket

Time: 15 min | Difficulty: Easy | Expenses: $

These instructions are for a snug fit contoured face mask. You can make masks in three sizes – S (kids), M (most adults, women and teens) and L (large faces, men)

SUPPLIES AND TOOLS:

- **main fabric** – about 13”x 7”, cotton (tightly woven, pre-washed)
- **lining fabric** about 13” x 6”, cotton (tightly woven, pre-washed)
- **1/16” round cord bead elastic** (preferable), or 1/8” flat elastic
- **scissors** (or rotary cutter and a cutting mat)
- **iron and ironing board**
- **sewing machine** (or you can do it by hand)
- **filter medium** (optional) – vacuum bags are found to be the most effective household filter material
- **small metal strip / wire** (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEWING THE FACE MASK:

1. **Download and print the pattern.** Print at 100% (no scale) on US letter paper. Measure the square test box to ensure the sizing is correct.
2. **Pin the pattern to fabric and cut the fabric pieces** (cut 2 from main fabric and 2 from lining fabric). The **seam allowance is 1/2 inch and is already included** on all sides except for the ear side where you should add an additional one-inch seam allowance when cutting out the outer fabric. Repeat with the lining fabric but this time do not add seam allowance to the ear side.
3. **Join the curved center seams** by placing the pretty sides together and sewing along the curved line. Do this for each of the layers.
4. **Clip the curved seam allowance** ½ inch apart. Be careful not to cut into the stitches
5. **Press the seam allowances** to different sides so that it does not bulk in one place.
6. (Optional) Topstitch near the seam line on the side where the seam allowance is.
7. **Fold the ear side of the inner layer** over ¼” twice and sew. (Repeat for the opposite side)
8. **Join the layers together.** Put the inner layer on top of the outer layer, right (pretty) sides facing each other so that the upper and lower edges align. Pin in place. Make a stitch at the bottom and top seam lines. Clip the top seam allowance to allow it to lay flat.
   If you did everything right up to this point, you will find that the side edge of the outer layer is about an inch away from the side edge on the inner layer.
9. **Turn the mask inside out and press well**
10. (Optional) Topstitch top and bottom parts
11. **Fold the raw side edge of the outer layer** over twice to make a casing. Before you sew make sure that it meets the edge of the lining and does not overlap it. Sew. (Repeat for the opposite side) 12. Insert the elastic through the pocket and tie the ends in a knot. (Repeat for the opposite side)

Congratulations! Your face mask is now ready. Enjoy it or sew more to give others.
Let us know how you did. We would love to hear from you and see pictures of your face masks.