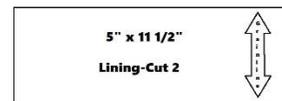
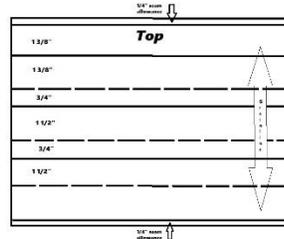


## Reusable Fabric Face Masks with Opening for Filter-Regular Sewing Machine

$\frac{1}{4}$ " seams unless otherwise stated. Backstitch all seams. One-way fabric designs require special attention and placement. Use new, clean fabric. Now is the time to consider safety first. Do not be tempted to use fabric from Grandma's or your attic. (Some pictures depicted here are of the mask made using a serger.)

(Disposable filters can be made from non-woven interfacing. I've read that Kleenex, paper towels, or coffee filters and even HEPA filter unused vacuum bags cut to fit can be used. Here's a link about the efficiency of these products.) <https://smartairfilters.com/en/blog/diy-homemade-mask-protect-virus-coronavirus/>

1. Cut out a rectangle 9" x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " for the front.
2. Cut out 2 rectangles 5" x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " for the lining.



3. Turn under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on one edge of each of the 5" x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " fabric pieces along the 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " side.
4. With right sides together, sew the raw edges of the 5" x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles to the 9" x 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle along the 11  $\frac{1}{2}$ " side.



5. Press seams toward the lining. I like to understitch also, but this step can be skipped if time is crucial.



6. Fold lining pieces toward the front and press again, making sure the seam does not show on the outside.
7. Stitch the raw edges together making sure the lining pieces meet in the middle.

(Where this is serged, yours will be hemmed.)



8. Fold in half lengthwise with the lining side facing you. Press. This line will help you space the pleats correctly and make sure the opening is easy to access to insert disposable filters or masks.



9. Turn over to the front side. Starting in the middle, bring the dotted lines up to the solid lines to form 3 pleats. Pin and repeat on the opposite end.



10. If you are an experienced sewing, you'll understand when I say you need to "eyeball" your pleats and make them look as evenly spaced as possible paying attention to making sure the top and bottom space look about the same. The finished ends should be about 4".



11. Stitch the pleats down.



12. Fold over 1/2 "to form a casing.



13. Stitch close to the folded edge.

14. Cut 2 - 10" lengths of 1/8" elastic. Use a safety pin to run the elastic through the casing.



\*If elastic is unavailable, you can use elastic ponytail holders for the ear loops. They will have to be inserted as you sew the casing. As a last resort, you can cut 4 - 15" lengths of ribbon and sew in at the 4 corners.

15. Bring ends of elastic together and tie an overhand knot. The user can adjust the elastic by loosening or tightening the knot.



Insert a disposable filter here.