**Reusable Cloth Face Masks**

*These masks are a little more detailed than some on the Internet, but are designed to give more protection.*

**Materials Needed:**
- **Cotton fabrics** (Batiks are recommended since they have a higher thread count than quilting cottons. Use two different prints per mask so the mask is not mistakenly put on inside out after possible contamination.)
- **Wire** (plastic coated twist ties, pipe cleaners, garden ties, 20 gauge floral wire, jewelry wire)
- **Elastic** (rope elastic for making bracelets, 1/8" or 1/4" sewing elastic)

**Cutting:**
- **Cotton fabrics:** Cut (2) 6” x 9” pieces, 1 for front and 1 for the back (5” x 7-1/2” for child’s mask)

*Note: Consider orientation of directional prints on mask front when cutting.*

- **Wire:** Cut (1) 6” piece (4-1/2” for child’s mask)
- **Elastic:** Cut (2) 7” lengths (6” for child’s mask)

**Assembly:**
- Use a 3/8” or 1/2” seam allowance.

1. Place front and back cotton pieces right sides together. Stitch across the top edge. Sew across bottom edge leaving a 2” opening.
2. Fold a length of elastic and insert between layers. If using rope elastic, tie a knot close to each end. Align ends with side edges and along the seams. Pin elastic in place. Repeat on other side edge of mask. Sew sides of mask closed backstitching over the elastic ends. Trim corners to reduce bulk.
4. Twist 1/2” on each end of wire as shown.
5. Insert wire between layers and place as shown with long edge of wire centered against the top seam. Pin to keep wire from moving. Pin the opening on bottom of mask with raw edges inside.
6. Top stitch around wire and 1/8" from all other edges as shown. This creates a pocket that keeps the wire in place.

7. Fold and pin three tucks on each side of mask, with tucks facing down on front. Don’t fuss too much. Nobody will ever know if your tucks aren’t perfect.

8. Top stitch 1/2” from each side of mask securing tucks in place. Stitch again over top stitching.

9. Place elastic behind ears and bottom of mask under chin. Mold wire to bridge of nose.

10. Mask can be machine washed, dried, and re-used. If wire starts to rust or poke through, cut a small slit on back of mask at one end of the pocket securing the wire. Remove wire and replace. Hand stitch opening closed.

Pattern is free to use. Feel free to share.

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