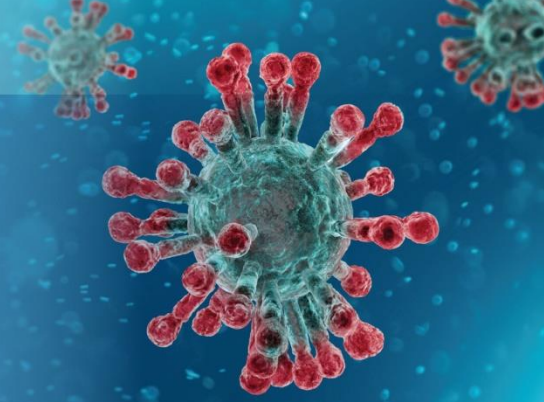


Novel Coronavirus

8 March 2020



How to use facemasks safely

The main purpose of facemasks is to stop people who are sick spreading the virus to others.

If you are well, members of the general public do not need to wear a facemask to protect themselves from coronavirus.



People who are sick with coronavirus should wear a facemask (if they can) when they need to leave home isolation, for example when they get tested or go to see a doctor.

Be careful to use facemasks properly. Follow the steps below. This is important, to help protect others around you.

1. **Leave the masks in a zip-lock bag** until you need to use them.
2. **Before putting on a facemask**, wash your hands all over with soap and water, or alcohol-based hand rub. Dry your hands well.
3. **To put the mask on**, cover your mouth and nose with the mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask. Tie it in place.
4. **Once your mask is on, don't touch it.** If you do touch it, wash your hands all over with soap and water, or alcohol-based hand rub.
5. **Replace the mask** with a new one if it gets damp. Do not reuse masks.
6. **To remove the mask:** undo the straps and remove the mask without touching the front of it. Put it straight in the rubbish. Wash your hands all over with soap and water, or alcohol-based hand rub. Dry your hands well.