

APPENDIX C: Masks

Non-Medical Mask/Facial Coverings

The [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) (BCCDC) states masks have a role to play in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Masks act as a barrier and help stop the spread of droplets from a person's mouth and nose when talking, laughing, yelling, singing, coughing, or sneezing.

Mask requirements in public indoor settings: As outlined in the [mask mandate order](#), masks are required for everyone in public indoor settings. Face coverings, when used in addition to other protective measures such as maintaining physical distance and using barriers, help to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are exemptions for:

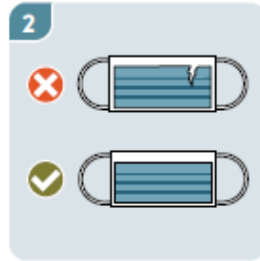
- People with health conditions or with physical, cognitive or mental impairments who cannot wear one.
- People who cannot remove a mask on their own.
- Children under the age of 12.
- People who need to remove their masks to communicate due to a hearing impairment.

viaSport BC guidance on masks for sport: The use of masks while participating in sport, may vary based on the level of intensity of the activity. Masks are now required to be worn by all individuals in public indoor settings. This includes common areas of sport and fitness centres when not engaged in physical activity. Masks may be removed temporarily in indoor public places while participating in a sport or fitness activity.

Help prevent the spread of COVID-19: How to use a mask



Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before touching the mask. If you don't have soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



Inspect the mask to ensure it's not damaged.



Turn the mask so the coloured side is facing outward.



Put the mask over your face and if there is a metallic strip, press it to fit the bridge of your nose.



Put the loops around each of your ears, or tie the top and bottom straps.



Make sure your mouth and nose are covered and there are no gaps. Expand the mask by pulling the bottom of it under your chin.



Press the metallic strip again so it moulds to the shape of your nose, and wash your hands again.



Don't touch the mask while you're wearing it. If you do, wash your hands.



Don't wear the mask if it gets wet or dirty. Don't reuse the mask. Follow correct procedure for removing the mask.

Removing the mask



Wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



Lean forward to remove your mask. Touch only the ear loops or ties, not the front of the mask.



Dispose of the mask safely.



Wash your hands. If required, follow the procedure for putting on a new mask.

Note: Graphics adapted from BC Centre for Disease Control (BC Ministry of Health), "How to wear a face mask."