

## MASK USE

*When wearing a mask in a food service operation, remember you must always follow the Food Code requirements for washing hands.*

*Pay special attention and avoid touching the mask and then handling food.*

*Touching or adjusting the mask should be considered the same as touching the nose or mouth and hands should be washed before handling food.*

### Follow these guidelines for wearing a face mask:

- Before putting on a mask:
  1. Clean hands with soap and water.
  2. Inspect the mask for any tears or holes.
- Locate the metal strip in the mask. This is the top of the mask.
- Place the top part of the mask on the bridge of your nose, molding the metal strip to the shape of your nose. Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.
- Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with soap and water.
- Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp or soiled and do not re-use single-use masks.
- Masks must be changed between meal periods (or every 4 hours or more often if necessary) and each associate needs to throw away their mask at the end of the day
- To remove the mask:
  1. Remove the mask from behind (do not touch the front of mask).
  2. Discard the mask immediately in a closed bin.
  3. Clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
- Do not wear the same mask for the entire shift you work
- Do not take your mask into the restroom with you
- Do not store a mask in your pockets



***Interim Guidance – Mask Extended Use:*** During supply shortages, associates should make every effort to continue to use masks unless significant external moisture or other material contamination occurs.

## ALTERNATIVE MASK USE (Cotton/Cloth)

Alternative facemasks can be manufactured facemasks, or homemade facemasks that are not regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Alternative facemasks may serve as a source control for an individual who may be infected (asymptomatic) as an approach to limit transmission of the virus.

### When is it appropriate to wear an alternative facemask?

1. FDA regulated PPE supply is not readily available.
2. A worker in a health care facility does not have direct patient care responsibility (e.g. food and nutrition staff, environmental services staff, administrative staff).
3. Use by employees who do not have respiratory symptoms.
4. Use by visitors or contract staff who are providing services.
5. Asymptomatic staff who have not had exposures to known or suspect COVID-19 cases.

### Use of alternate facemasks:

- Before putting on a mask:
  1. Clean hands with soap and water.
  2. Inspect the mask for any tears or holes.
- Place the top part of the mask on the bridge of your nose. Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.
- Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with soap and water.
- To remove the mask:
  1. Remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask).
  2. Clean hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- Do not take your mask into the restroom with you.
- Do not store a mask in your pockets.
- Alternative facemasks should be changed when saturated from condensation build up from breathing, or after a gross contamination event.
- Dirty and clean facemasks must be housed in separate, clearly labeled containers to prevent cross contamination.
- Clean facemasks should be stored in a breathable container, like a brown paper bag.

### Washing masks:

- Wash dirty masks between each use in hot water with regular detergent.
- Dry the mask completely on hot (high) setting. According to WHO, heat of 133 degrees F can kill the coronavirus.

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