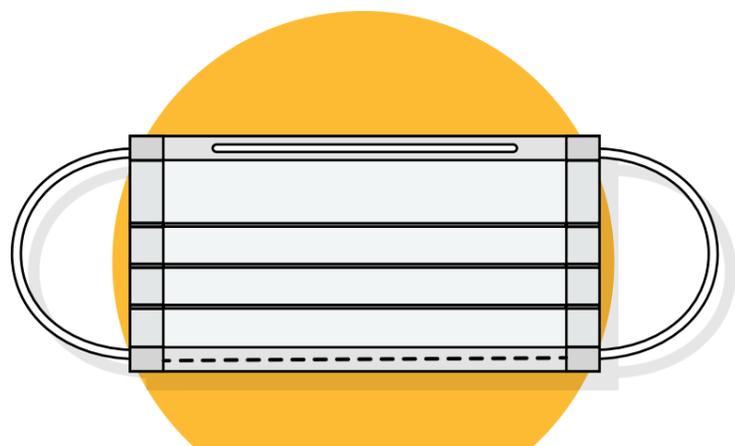
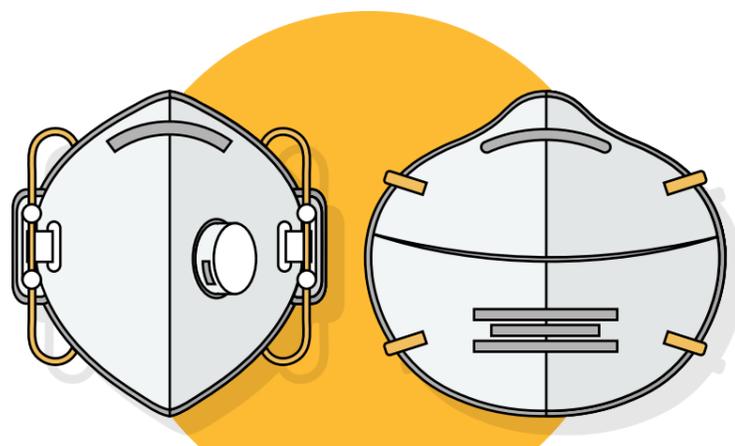


# What are the main types of face masks & who should use them?



**Face (surgical) mask**



**Respirator mask - P2 & N95**

## How does the mask work / what is it for?

- › Loose fitting
- › Disposable
- › Physical barrier
- › Designed for medical settings
- › Do not protect the wearer from bacteria or viruses
- › Fit checking recommended

- › Tight fitting with adjustable nose piece
- › Air filtration mechanism
- › Can be disposable
- › Designed for high risk medical settings
- › Protects the wearer from viruses & bacteria
- › Special training is required
- › Fit testing and checking recommended

## Who might wear this type of mask?

### Recommended for:

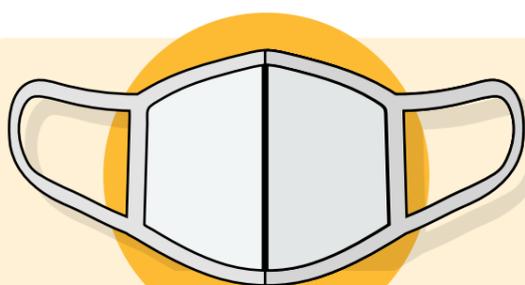
- › healthcare workers undertaking routine care of patients in medical settings
- › suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients and those providing their care
- › healthcare workers who have frequent, close contact with sick or vulnerable people
- › the general public only in specific circumstances and when recommended by government.

### Recommended for:

- › medical procedures that generate aerosols from a patient.

### Not recommended for:

- › non-healthcare settings.



**Face (cloth) mask**

A cloth mask is a nose and mouth covering made from a washable fabric. Cloth masks may be recommended by the government to be worn by the general public as an alternative to surgical masks in specific circumstances. Cloth masks must be properly designed and constructed to ensure they provide adequate protection.

## Important note

The information contained in this infographic applies to minimising the transmission of COVID-19 only.

The Australian Government Department of Health does not generally recommend the wearing of face masks in the community. However, there may be occasions when it is recommended that the general public wear face masks

if community transmission is occurring and physical distancing is difficult to maintain.

Face masks are used across various industries and continue to play an important role in controlling exposure to a range of occupational hazards.