

How to Make a Basic Mask Lanyard

Masks have become a part of everyday life. We wear them to shop or to go to school—our new normal for safely negotiating life when you can't be 6-feet apart. However, there are times when the mask is taken off for short periods of time—when driving by yourself, for example. But you will need it again shortly, and you don't want to lose it. A lanyard attached to the ear loops of your mask can save you the time and hassle of having to search for your mask. It's hanging around your neck, ready to be worn again. Quick access can be very important!

This tutorial shows you a quick way to make a simple lanyard! (TIP: They are also great for work I.D.s and other necessary identification.)

You will need:

- One strip of fabric 24"–30" long x 1–1/2" wide
- Matching thread
- Two swivel hooks #728 or #16039
- Iron and ironing surface
- Sewing machine
- 1" Bias tape maker #3147
- Scissors
- Straight pins
- Tape measure to check length

Optional for cutting fabric:

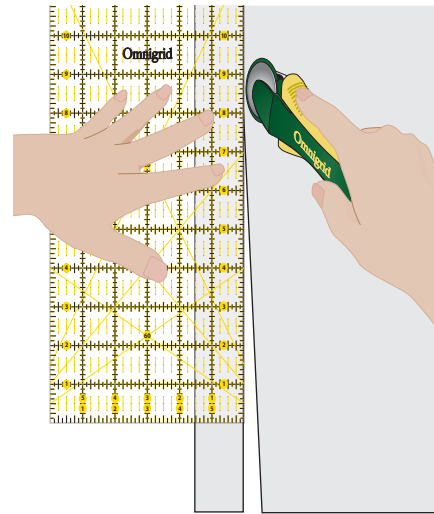
- Grid-marked ruler
- Rotary cutter
- Cutting mat



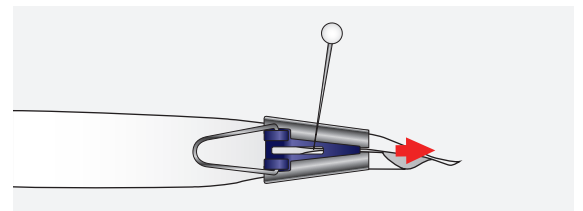
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The length of the lanyard is determined by personal preference. Where do you want the mask to sit on your chest? Loop a tape measure around your neck and through the ear loops of your mask to determine length. Add 2-1/2" to this amount for finishing. 20"-30" is allowed as the most common length.

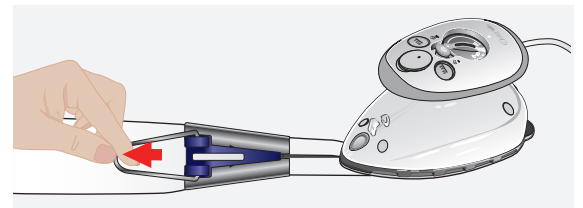
1. Cut a strip of fabric 1-1/2" wide by this measured length. Use a rotary cutter with a grid-marked ruler on a cutting mat to make a straight cut edge.



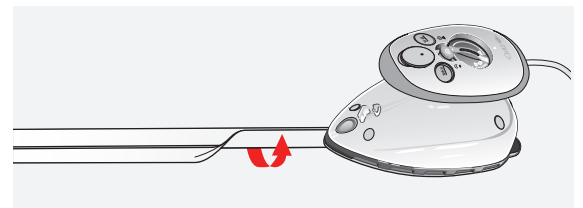
2. Slide the fabric strip through the bias tape maker. Because the tape maker is designed for a bias strip, you may need to use the point of a straight pin to push the fabric through the narrow opening.



3. Follow the bias tape maker package directions to press the long edges to the center of the fabric strip.

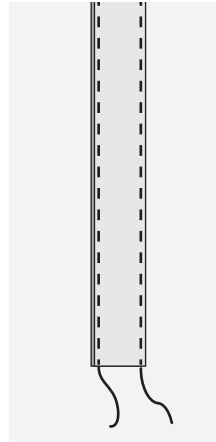


4. Fold the strip in half lengthwise aligning the pressed edges, and press again.

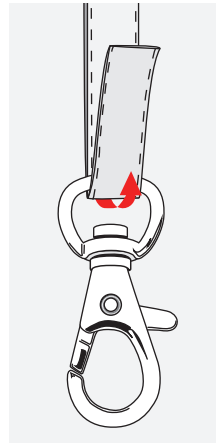


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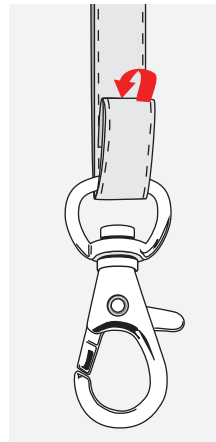
6. Topstitch the folded fabric strip along both edges. Trim the short cut ends evenly.



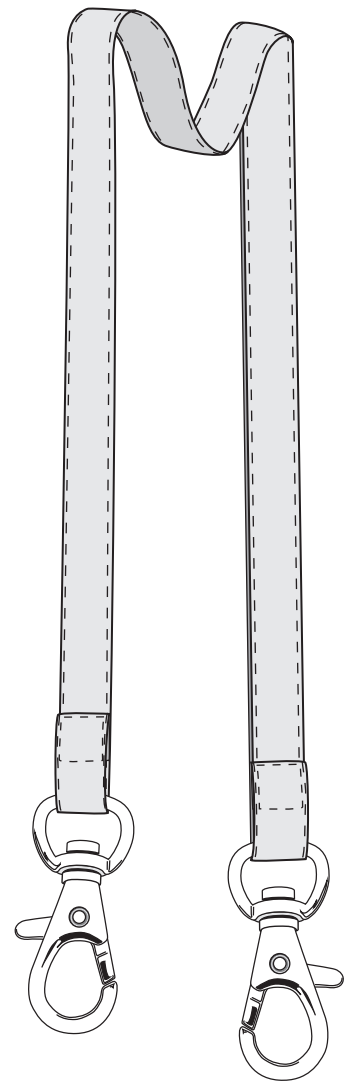
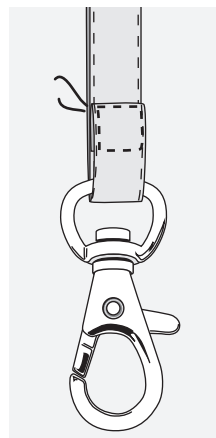
7. Fold one end through the opening on a swivel hook, extending fabric to about 1-1/4". Repeat with the opposite end. Test the length by trying on the lanyard. Adjust length as needed.



8. Tuck the cut ends under 1/2" to the inside and pin.



9. Stitch the ends with a square of topstitching catching the folded ends for each swivel hook.



Completed lanyard