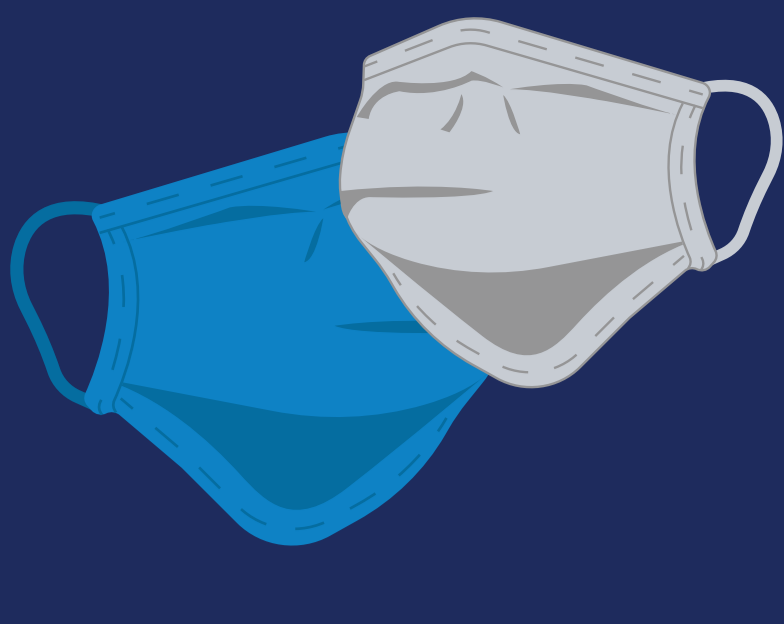


# Need a Face Mask for Your Employees But Don't Know Where to Start?



## Here Are 10 Tips to Consider

Face masks or face coverings, sometimes called barrier face coverings, are one way to help others, as well as potentially the wearer, from being infected with COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

You want your employees to be **safe AND comfortable** during the entire work day. Ensuring your employees have high-quality, effective masks protects them and anyone around them.

Here are 10 things to consider when purchasing non-medical face masks.

### 1 Look for masks that meet published standards

The ASTM F3502 standard provides recommendations for general-use masks. Masks that are tested by independent third-party companies to determine if they meet these standards provide confidence that the mask will keep your employees and those around them safe.



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### 2 Make sure your employees can breathe when wearing the mask

LOOK FOR A MASK THAT PROVIDES A "HIGH PERFORMANCE" (LEVEL 2) BREATHABILITY MEASUREMENT

**≤ 5 MM H<sub>2</sub>O**

Some masks, like N95s, are difficult to breathe through and can be uncomfortable, and even unsafe, when worn for hours.

### 3 Keep employees safe with a mask that filters out the majority of particles

MOST CLOTH MASKS KEEP OUT **≤ 20%** OF PARTICLES IN THE AIR, WHICH PUTS THE WEARER AT RISK OF INFECTION.

LOOK FOR A "HIGH PERFORMANCE" (LEVEL 2) MASK THAT FILTERS **≥ 50%** OF PARTICLES SMALLER THAN A MICRON.

### 4 Ensure a good fit and avoid gaps around the cheeks and nose

For enhanced protection, use a mask brace or mask fitter.



When masks don't fit well, they slip off the wearer's face and can cause particles in and out of the gaps.

People also tend to fidget with poor-fitting masks, which decreases their effectiveness.

### 5 Consider alternatives to cloth face masks

Innovative nonwoven materials combine the qualities needed for both comfort and safety.

These masks might be labeled as having plant-based material.

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CAPTUR™ IS A PROPRIETARY, NON-WOVEN FILTER MEDIA THAT MAXIMIZES FILTRATION PERFORMANCE AND USER COMFORT.

### 6 Buy U.S.-made face masks



LOOK FOR A LABEL THAT SAYS THE MASK IS MADE OF MATERIALS FROM THE U.S. AND IS MANUFACTURED IN THE U.S.

International supply of materials and manufacturing of face masks have resulted in shortages as material has run out and supply chains are disrupted.

Mask producers based in the U.S. will be able to meet your mask demand.

Plus, buying a U.S.-made mask supports local jobs.

### 7 Don't overlook ease of communication

Masks muffle sound, making it more difficult to hear the wearer.

Request a mask sample so you can test the mask when talking. Are you easy to understand?



### 8 Stay sustainability-centered



Durable, reusable face masks can help reduce your company's carbon footprint and energy use.

### 9 Focus on finding a mask manufacturing partner

You will need a continuous supply of masks to keep your employees safe over time.

A commercial mask maker can work with you to make sure to meet your demand.

Vet commercial mask makers on their third-party testing results and mask material before making any purchasing decisions.



### 10 Keep an eye out for counterfeits and false marketing claims



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Avoid counterfeit masks by looking for incorrect spellings or improper verbiage.

Research marketing claims that boast of certification.

For instance, it's not possible to be "ASTM-certified." Manufacturers can only claim to meet the ASTM standard through third-party testing.



Bringing workers back safely is a key element to ensuring employee satisfaction. Providing high-quality masks that keep them safe AND comfortable will also help increase productivity!

Ready for a mask that meets all these criteria?

Contact us today: [sales@aries-usa.com](mailto:sales@aries-usa.com)