DIY Fabric Surgical Mask

Materials

- cotton fabric, tightly woven
- Narrow elastic

Instructions

1. **Cut the fabric.**
2. For a large mask, cut 1 rectangle 15.5" long and 8.5" wide. 2 pieces of elastic, 7" long. For a medium mask cut rectangle 14.5" long and 7.5" wide. 2 pieces of elastic 6" long. For a small mask, cut 1 rectangle 13.5" long and 6.5" wide. 2 pieces of elastic, each 5"long. (If you are using ties, make 4 18" long ties or slightly shorter for the small mask)
3. **Sew the top side, with pocket**
   Fold the fabric in half, with the right sides facing each other.
   Sew along the shorter edge, using a 3/8" seam allowance. Leave a 2"-3" opening in the centre of this seam to create an opening for the filter pocket, and to allow the mask to be turned right side out after sewing. Press flat with seam in middle of rectangle.
   Pin Elastic
   Push the elastic into the mask with ends pointing out, one end at the top and one at the bottom. Repeat on other side.
4. **Sew the Sides**
   Sew the sides of the facemask. Backstitch over the elastic to secure it.
   Turn the mask right side out and press with an iron.
5. **Sew the Pleats**
   Create two or three evenly spaced pleats. Pin the folds in place, and sew along the sides. Making sure all pleats are facing the same direction.

Note: When the mask is worn, the pleats should open downwards to prevent any particles from collecting in the fold pockets.

Cut one cotton rectangle, 8.5" wide by 15.5" long. Cut 2 7" pieces of elastic or 4 18" fabric strips.
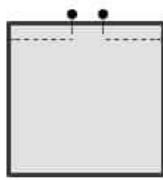
Fold in half and sew along the top, leaving a 2" opening for the pocket.
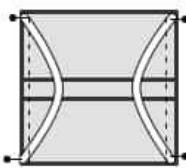
Sandwich the elastic or ties between the layers of fabric at the corners, and sew along each side to secure.
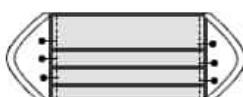
Turn the mask right side out. Fold 3 evenly-spaced 1/2" pleats. Pin in place, and sew to secure.