Why do I need to wear a face covering?

In light of new data about how COVID-19 spreads, along with evidence of widespread COVID-19 illness in communities across the country, CDC recommends that people wear a cloth face covering to cover their nose and mouth in the community setting. This is to protect people around you if you are infected but do not have symptoms.

When do I need to wear a face covering?

A cloth face covering should be worn whenever people are in a community setting, especially in situations where you may be near people. These settings include grocery stores and pharmacies. These face coverings are not a substitute for physical distancing. Cloth face coverings are especially important to wear in public in areas of widespread COVID-19 illness. NOTE: Continue to frequently wash your hands and keep your distance from others.

Do I still need to stay at least 6 ft. away from people when I wear a face covering?

YES. Wearing cloth face coverings is an additional public health measure people should take to reduce the spread of COVID-19. CDC still recommends that you stay at least 6 ft. away from other people (physical distancing), frequent hand cleaning and other everyday preventive actions. A cloth face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but it may prevent the spread of virus from the wearer to others. This would be especially important if someone is infected but does not have symptoms.

What’s the difference between a cloth face covering and an N95?

An N95 (medical grade masks) are used primarily by our frontline heroes to fight the pandemic. A face covering for the rest of us is essential for our essential activities, outside of our home, to prevent spreading the virus.

I’m a DIYer, can I make my own?

YES. Guidelines for creating the CDC recommended face covering can be found by going to: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FACE COVERINGS GO TO: cdc.gov