

Use of Disposable Face Masks

Voluntary Use Information

A disposable face mask is being offered to you to be used in certain activities you may perform as part of your work activities. It is important that you understand that the University is NOT requiring you to use this mask.

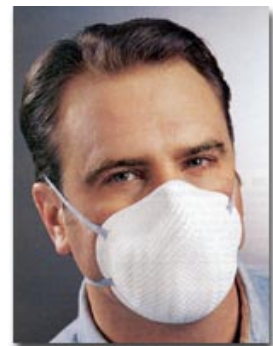
Furthermore, there is no OSHA or similar requirement for you to use the mask either. It is provided for your additional protection and/or comfort during the course of your work.

Fitting the Mask to your Face

You may have one of a number of different styles of disposable face mask provided to you. They essentially contain the same type of filtration material, though the way they fit to your face may vary.

If the mask has two elastic bands, one should be above your ears and one below, such as you see in the photo to the right.

If there is a metal band at the nose area, form fit it to your nose snugly.



Limitations to Face Masks

Be aware that the face mask is only designed to protect you from particles and dust, NOT gases, organic vapors or any other hazardous situation. Also, it does NOT supply oxygen!

If you are wearing a disposable face mask for protection from influenza, know that they are suitable for this purpose—the viruses attach themselves to particles in the air, or liquid droplets expelled in sneezes or coughs!

Use and Care of the Face Piece Mask

Disposable face masks are indeed disposable. They should supply approximately eight hours of use and then should be thrown away in the trash. If you will only be wearing your mask for very brief times, you can store it in a plastic bag. You should NEVER use someone else's face mask. For additional face masks, please contact EH&S at 8-8182.

Our Mission:

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) is committed to providing health and safety services that protect the University community and the environment.