

Beekeeper Mask

Step by step directions to make a combination Face Shield Mask for young children and Covid-19 protection

I designed this shield/mask combo to try to give additional options for young children who are not able or willing to wear a traditional mask. This might be a good choice for a child who is receiving speech therapy who needs to be able to see the teachers mouth moving. This might be a good alternative to a child who gets their traditional masks wet of a regular basis. It allows an additional amount of protection to a face shield alone, while also allowing people's faces to be seen. The steps detailed below are for a version that allows the face shield portion to be removed & cleaned while the hat & barrier portion are put through the washing machine.

There is also a video on youtube that I very much recommend you watch to see all the construction steps.

Disclaimer: I am a parent, not a physician. Please use your own best judgement and that of the CDC in protecting yourself and your family.

Materials needed:

- Face shield – I recommend getting a pack on 5 or 10. With this pattern the face shield portion is replaceable once it becomes scratched or creased from continued use.
- 1/3 of a yard - Denim or other heavy duty fabric like canvas or duck cloth
- 7/8 of a yard - Preshrunk cotton or knit fabric – this will be used for the main portion of the mask that goes around the head & neck. Cotton material is preferred.
- About 16” of 1/4” Elastic (the exact amount is determined by the size of the persons neck. The elastic should go comfortably around their neck without too much pressure.
- 1 yard 1/2” Velcro
- e6000 glue or super glue
- Hat with an adjustable strap around the crown. It's important that the hat fits snugly on the head. If it's too large or small it will not be able to keep the face shield portion in the correct position. This is the hat I was working with in the video:
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0892NNTS2/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_image?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- A washable fabric marker or another way to mark the pattern on the fabric.

Before assembly:

Make sure that you wash all the fabric and hat before cutting your pieces. An important part of this barrier is that the fabric portion can be washed frequently. As such, it's important to make sure that any shrinkage that will happen happens before construction.

Before beginning measure the circumference of the outside brim of your hat, then add one to two inches for mistakes. This is **measurement A**. You can measure $\frac{1}{2}$ way around & double the measurement.



Pieces to cut:

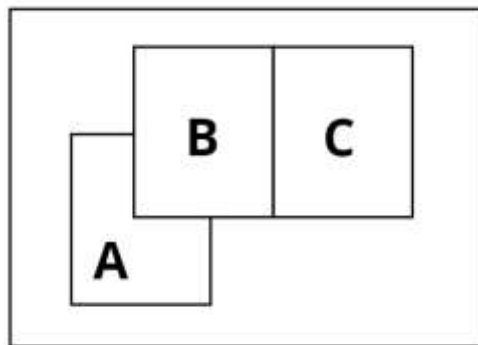
Piece 1, From the denim, Cut on the fold one band 2” wide by $\frac{1}{2}$ **measurement A.**

Piece 2, If you are using the same face shield pictured in this pattern, cut one on the fold from denim using the attached pattern.

You can check this pattern fits your face shield by cutting out piece 2 & making sure that the line labeled “face shield” matches the face shield you have. If you are using a different face shield, here is how to make your own template for piece 2:

- First cut away any extra material from your face shield. In our example this means cutting away the blue “Face Shield” portion along the top. You only want the area that you will actually be looking through. On the denim, trace your trimmed face shield, then measure and trace $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch inside twice. Then add a another $\frac{1}{2}$ ” around the exterior edge. Refer to the paper pattern.
- Once you had drawn all your markings, cut around the exterior of the pattern leaving the interior in place.

Piece 3, Assemble pattern piece from the attached file as shown below. Cut two of the pattern from the cotton fabric on the fold. Make sure that you add where indicated to make the entire length of the pattern match measurement A.



Assembly:

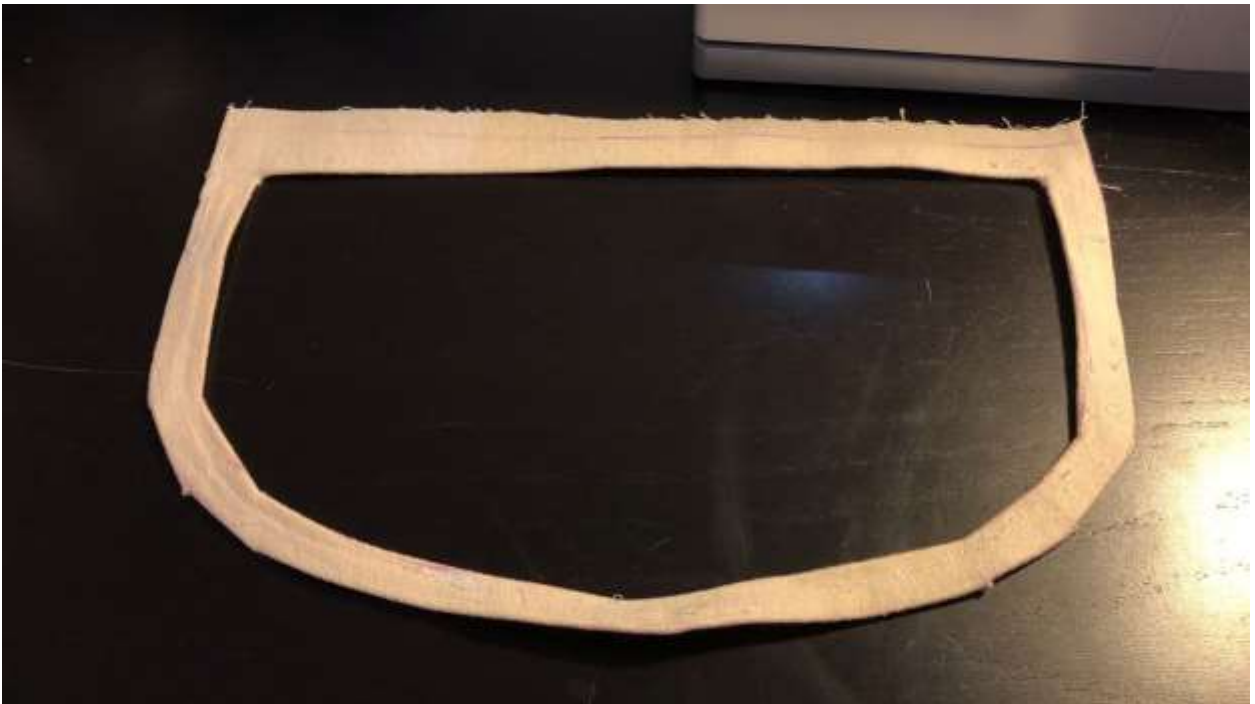
1. First trim your face-shield. You will cut the face shield straight across under the blue band. In the ones I was working with there was a protective film on both sides, I cut directly above that film.



2. Using superglue or e6000, attach the rough side of your Velcro to the face shield as shown in the diagram. Allow to fully dry before testing the Velcro. At the end of the build, once you are sure you have a good fit you will come back to this step to make additional shields.
3. Hem the band. Take **Piece 1** and fold one of the long sides under and hem it to make a clean edge. Leave the other side raw. This will attach to the hat at the end. The piece should look like the picture below.



4. Iron **Piece 2** onto medium weight fusible interfacing for added stability. Cut out the middle section and snip the edges as indicated on the pattern.
5. On **Piece 2**, fold the interior seam allowance inside and sew around the edge.
6. Then fold the exterior seam allowance under and sew around the edge, **leaving the top edge undone**. This top seam allowance will be used later when you sew piece 1 & 2 together. After you sew both seam allowances piece 2 should look as follows:



7. Sew the Velcro to the front of piece 2 around entire edge. Make sure you are matching placement with the placement of the Velcro on the face shield.

It is best to do backstitching as reinforcement at the top corners where you will be pulling the face shield off repeatedly as this is a stress point.



Once this is done, it's a good time to do another test fit with the face shield to make sure the Velcro is in the correct position & there's no major gaps in how the face shield attaches.

8. Sew the two layers of **Piece 3** right sides together along the back sides first and then along the bottom. Leave an opening in the seam as indicated in the pattern. This will be where we thread the elastic at the end.
9. Turn the two pieces to be wrong sides together and press with iron. Top-stitch a $\frac{1}{2}$ " channel at the neck opening for the elastic.

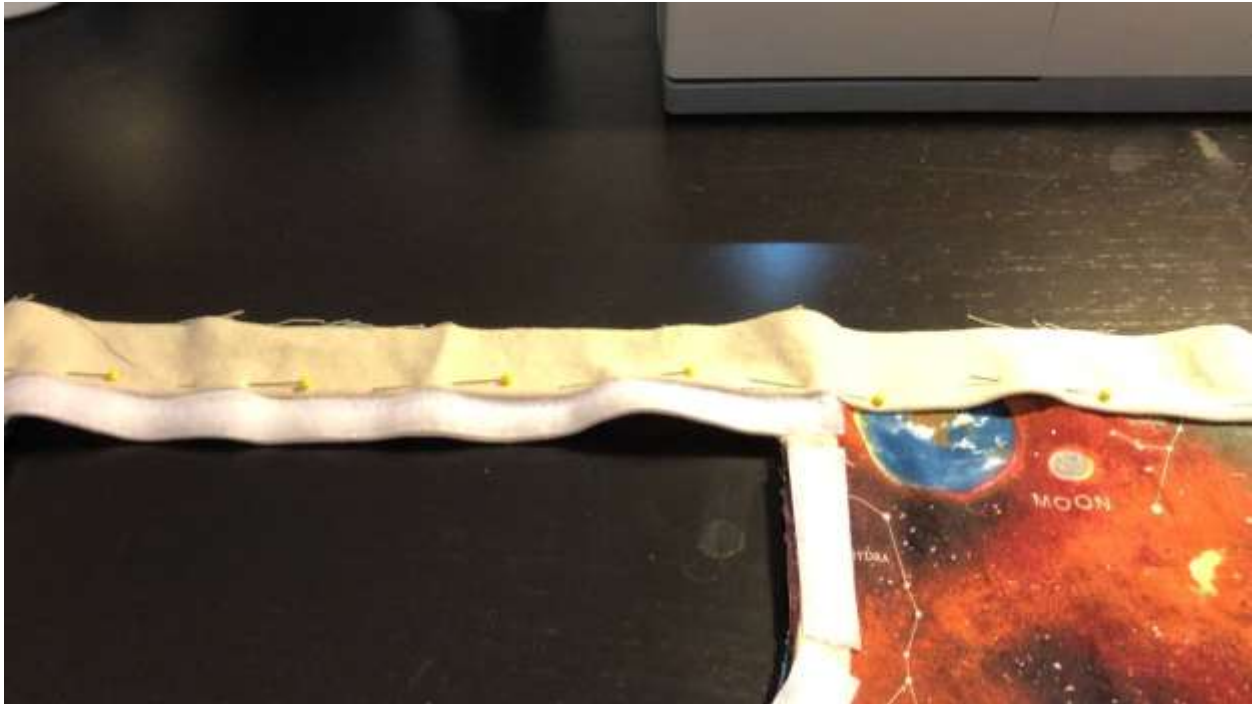


10. Sew piece 2 & 3 together. Layer piece 2 over the opening in piece 3 & sew through all layers.



Once this is done, it's good to do another test fit with the face shield to make sure the Velcro is in the correct position.

11. Remove the face shield and fold the connected **Piece 2 and 3** in half to find the middle point of both.
12. Fold **Piece 1** in half to find the middle point of that, then beginning from the middle pin **Pieces 1, 2 and 3** together along their length. Pin **Pieces 2 and 3** underneath the hem of **Piece 1** as shown.



13. Sew together along the length of piece 1, again backstitching at the corners of piece 2 and 3, as this is a stress point.
14. Pin the raw edge side of piece 1 underneath the brim of the hat along the edge. If the ends overlap you can sew them to overlap at the back or trim them. I prefer to just have them overlap. While you do not want a large gap at the back of the hat, having some give there is fine & makes getting it on & off easier. This is why we are not sewing the back of **Piece 3** together.
15. Push the elastic through the casing at the bottom. This is easily done by putting a safety pin through the edge of your elastic and using that to work it through the casing. Measure the exact amount on the person who will be wearing the hat/mask. You want it to be comfortable against their skin, but obviously not adding any pressure or causing discomfort.

Time to try it on! Add the face shield and test it out!

For cleaning, remove the face shield and wipe with a cleaning wipes as needed. The hat and fabric portion can be put through the washing machine.