

# COVID-19

## Masks and Respirators

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

#### N95 Respirators



#### Isolation (Iso) Masks



#### Surgical Masks



### Donning respirators or masks

1. **Wash hands** or use hand sanitizer and put on clean gloves
2. **Inspect** the respirator or mask, being careful not to touch inside of face piece
3. **Don N95:** position top strap high on the back of head and **bottom strap** around your neck below your ears
  - **N95:** Perform seal check
  - **Mask:** Adjust for comfort and fit
4. **Remove gloves, wash hands** or use hand sanitizer and put on clean gloves anytime you touch your mask

**Re-use:** Repeated wearing of an N95 respirator or face mask by the same person for multiple client interactions, removing it (“doffing”) after each interaction and storing it in a clean paper bag for future interactions. After putting on (“donning”) a re-used respirator or mask, **wash hands or use hand sanitizer.**

**Extended use:** Wearing the same N95 respirator or face mask for repeated close contact interactions with several clients without removing it between interactions. Extended use may be implemented when multiple clients are infected with the same illness and are placed together in dedicated rooms.

**When to discard:** Discard respirator or mask when they are visibly dirty or soiled, come into contact with blood or bodily fluids, are hard to breathe through, straps appear overly stretched/torn, or face piece is damaged.

**This is general guidance:** follow site and activity specific procedures if available.

### Doffing respirators or masks

1. **N95: Remove bottom strap** and bring to front
2. **N95: Remove top strap** and bring to front
3. **N95 or mask: Remove from face,** being careful not to touch inside of face piece
4. **Place in clean paper bag** with name, date and straps hanging outside bag
5. **Wash hands** or use hand sanitizer



City & County of San Francisco  
**Department of Public Health**