



2650 Cherokee Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63118

[www.bespokesaintlouis.com](http://www.bespokesaintlouis.com)  
[info@bespokesaintlouis.com](mailto:info@bespokesaintlouis.com)

314-665-2665

## Cloth Filter Masks

### If You Like Your Mask...

Please share our store link ([bespokesaintlouis.square.site](http://bespokesaintlouis.square.site)) with your friends & family. We ship all over the country.

### Fit

Make sure the mask covers your nose completely. Pinch the wire around the bridge of your nose to get as tight a fit as possible. Don't leave your chin exposed. Make sure the mask is snug to your face and doesn't gap or sag at the sides. You can retie the ear elastic if necessary to adjust the fit.

If you're wearing the masks for extended periods, you may find that the elastic chafes around your ears. If this turns out to be an issue, instead of looping the elastic over your ears you can tie them together with a ribbon behind your head. Any kind of ribbon or string will work.

Once you have the mask on properly, here are best practices from the NY Times (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/08/well/live/coronavirus-face-mask-mistakes.html>) for managing it.

- Always wash your hands before and after wearing a mask.
- Use the ear loops to put the mask on and remove it - don't touch the front of the mask.
- Wash and dry the mask daily and keep it in a clean dry place.
- If you live in an apartment building, put on and remove the mask before you leave. Elevators and stairwells can be high contamination areas..
- Don't have a false sense of security. Always maintain appropriate distance in public.

### Care

The cotton masks and filter material need to be cared for using different methods. The masks need to be washed and the filters need to be baked in a moist heat. Don't bake the masks or wash the filters.

Before wearing for the first time, your masks should be washed. Our workroom is clean, but not sterile. The CDC says that washing cloth masks in hot soapy water is adequate. You can machine or hand wash the mask, but remove the filter material first. Always replace your mask with the red thread inside, towards your face. We deliver the masks with the filters installed so you can see how they're supposed to fit inside. It's a little tricky, but we believe in you.

Guidance for cleaning the filters is provided by the manufacturer at <https://tinyurl.com/yb4629p7>. The gist is: 1) Heat your oven to 150° F; 2) Remove the filter material from the mask and place it between two sheets of aluminum foil; 3) Fill an oven-safe container with water; and 4) Place the container of water and the foil-wrapped filter in the oven and bake for 30 minutes.

We know that not everyone's oven heats as low as 150°. We have found information about using a microwave to clean the filter material, and have made it available here: <https://bespokesaintlouis.com/2020/05/07/microwave-filter-cleaning-instructions/>

Most importantly, remember that the guidance on best practices is changing rapidly. While we've done our best to compile current information, please check the CDC site regularly for updated guidance,

### Spec

The filter material is rated MERV 16, and will block up to 95% of particles .3 microns or larger. A spec sheet is available at [www.filti.com](http://www.filti.com), and at our web store at <https://bespokesaintlouis.square.site>.

### Updates

This is a living document, and will change as new information becomes available. The latest version will always be downloadable at our web store. As news changes, we'll also be updating our Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Bespoke-349242371809773/>) and our blog (<https://bespokesaintlouis.com/blog/>) Please consider following us to keep up to date.