

KN95 Mask Information

What is a KN95?

KN95 masks are made from multiple layers of a synthetic material that reduces the number of particles a person breathes in by approximately 95%.

Why use a KN95 instead of a face mask?

Depending on the design and material of face masks, they may provide limited protection to the wearer. A KN95 mask may provide better protection for the wearer than face masks, while also reducing the potential spread of the virus from the wearer due to its materials and fit.

How do I properly put on (Don) my KN95?

- Wash hands before putting on a KN95, if the ability to wash your hands is not available sanitize hands before.
- Place your chin in the mask first and then cover the nose.
- Secure straps or ear loops to hold the mask in place.
- Using both hands, press fingers to mold the metal nosepiece to the shape of your nose.
- Take a few breathes and adjust mask as necessary to increase fit and comfort.
- Facial hair growth longer than stubble can negatively affect the fit of the KN95 to form around your face and thus reduces the effectiveness. Reducing the amount of facial hair that contacts the mask edges can improve fit.

How do I properly remove (Doff) my KN95?

- Wash hands before removing your KN95, if the ability to wash your hands is not available, sanitize hands if the mask is to be reused.
- Remove the mask from the ear loops or straps. Do not grab the front of the mask.
- Place in storage container if mask is to be reused or dispose of in trash if new mask will be used.
- Wash or sanitize hands after removing and storing/disposal of mask.

Care and proper storage of a KN95?

- Care of KN95 mask can increase service life for an extended period.
- To keep KN95 masks clean between uses, store mask in an unsealed container out of direct sunlight and excessive heat.
- A dry paper bag works well for a storage container.
- Do not leave your mask in a location that another individual could mistake it for their own and label storage containers as necessary to prevent unintended use.

When to dispose of a KN95?

You should replace your KN95 when it:

- Becomes visibly soiled
- No longer fits properly and will not cover the nose and mouth
- The straps or ear loops have been damaged or stretched to the point where they will no longer hold the mask to the face.
- If there is any damage to the mask itself, such as tears or holes.
- If the mask becomes saturated to the point that it reduces the wearer's ability to breath easily.

IMPORTANT:

- Discontinue use of KN95 mask if at any point during the wearing of the mask you have difficulty breathing or experience other adverse health effects.
- Please continue to follow all other University guidelines and procedures for Covid-19.
- KN95 masks should not be used as a substitute for approved NIOSH respirators as they have not been tested to the same standard. Individuals that are required to utilize a fit tested respirator for normal job duties should continue to do so.
- KN95 masks may be disposed of as regular trash and are not recyclable.