



FAQs: Governor's Order for Masks & Distancing

WHO?

Consumers/Customers

Required: Over Age 9

Recommended/Reasonable Effort: Age 2-9

Retail & Transportation
Employees/Drivers

WHAT?

Wear Face Coverings

- Any covering that fully covers a person's nose and mouth, but is not a Medical-Grade Mask
- Includes, without limitation, scarves and bandanas
- Should not be placed on children younger than 2 years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove it without assistance
- Single-use Face Coverings shall be properly discarded in trash receptacles
- It is recommended that all reusable Face Coverings be cleaned frequently (at least once per day)
- Wearing a Medical-Grade Mask satisfies any requirement but all Marylanders are urged to reserve Medical-Grade Masks for use by health care workers and first responders

WHERE?

In enclosed public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores, pharmacies, transportation services, markets, food service facilities, alcohol beverage stores, laundromats and other retail establishments serving the public)

*Not intended for settings where you are separated from others, such as private office spaces.

Residents in all jobs may want to consider wearing face coverings if occupationally safe and if there is exposure to other individuals (co-workers or consumers). Also not required for consumers in their personal vehicles picking up goods via drive-thru or drive up services.

WHEN?

Effective April 18, 2020



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WHY?

Due to widespread community transmission, rapid increase in numbers of cases, and concern for exposure in public settings. Wearing a face covering may help prevent spread of COVID-19 by people who may have the virus but are not yet showing symptoms (asymptomatic transmission)

HOW...

Will this order be enforced?

- Enforced by local & state law enforcement
 - A person who knowingly and willfully violates this order is guilty of a misdemeanor
- *Upon conviction, may be subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both

Do I implement this order for my business?

Retail establishments should [post signage](#) on face coverings, ensure that employees can wear face coverings and wash their hands, sanitize equipment and designate 6 ft spacing for lines. SMCHD has posted example social distancing strategies, environmental recommendations and other information for [Businesses](#) on our website. Contact our Environmental Health Division at 301-475-4321 for assistance.

[**CLICK HERE TO READ THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR MASKS & PHYSICAL DISTANCING IN MARYLAND**](#)