# How to select a mask

**DO choose masks that**

- Have 2 or more layers of washable, breathable fabric
- Completely cover your nose and mouth
- Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps.
- Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask

**DO NOT choose masks that**

- Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl
- Have exhalation valves or vents which allow virus particles to escape
- Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators

## Special Considerations

- Wear a gaiter with two layers, or fold it to make two layers
- Not recommended: Evaluation of face shields is ongoing, but effectiveness is unknown at this time.

## Children

- Find a mask that is made for children to help ensure proper fit
- Check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin and that there are no gaps around the sides
- Do NOT put on children younger than 2 years old