

## **PROTOCOLS TO MINIMISE VIRUS SPREAD:**

Sewing in a pandemic is not normal. We must be mindful of disease transmission and our role in minimizing virus spread. To reduce the odds of COVID-19 transmission to ourselves, our families, and our brothers & sisters in Christ who receive masks, St Veronica's volunteers will do the following:

### **Evaluate if you should sew face masks:**

During the past month, have you traveled out of the country?

Please, do not sew for others until after you have self-quarantined for 14 days.

During the past month have you travelled to a COVID-19 hotspot?

Please, do not sew for others until after you have self-quarantined for 14 days.

Have you been exposed to a person with COVID-19 or have felt ill during the past two weeks?

Please, do not sew for others until after you have self-quarantined for 14 days.

Be honest in your self-evaluation. Do not let charity out run reason. It could risk another's life.

### **Preparing fabric from your own stash or store purchases:**

Heat kills viruses. Wash even "clean" fabric again.

Say a prayer. Wash cotton in hot, soapy water. Use Sanitation setting if you have it.

Dry at hottest drier setting. Press with hot steam iron, take your time.

### **Picking up protocol:**

#### When giving items away:

Say a prayer. With gloves on, place items into a paper grocery bag, write the person's name on it, place it outside your door. Take off gloves, put into garbage.

#### When picking items up:

Say a prayer. Take a pair of gloves and a bag. At their house put gloves on, put on mask, pick up the paper bag, put in vehicle. Dispose of gloves into bag. Remove mask. Drive home. Place glove bag in garbage. If you are making multiple stops, untie top strings and leave around the neck, while driving. Remember if the mask gets wet through respiration, it's no longer effective.

No social contact. Talk through a closed door or by phone if you need to.

### **When sewing or handling fabric protocol at home:**

#### Preparing work space before sewing or cutting:

Say a prayer. Wipe down the table, flat surface, or cutting board, you will be using with an EPA cleaner listed below. Keep wet for FOUR MINUTES. Set a timer. Air dry.

Say a prayer. Wipe down your sewing machine with EPA cleaner, pay attention the places you will be touching most. Keep wet for FOUR MINUTES. Set a timer. Air dry.

Use a face mask while working on this project to protect others.

Reminder \*\*\*Wash, wash, wash hands. O, the washing of the hands! After sneezing, coughing, or using the bathroom\*\*\* during your entire working time\*\*\*

Say the St Veronica's prayers or other prayer and get ready to sew!

After finished sewing one mask: Press all parts of mask and ties with iron on hottest setting. Place finished mask into an individual, paper lunch bag or any paper bag. Fold bag top. Place sticker or tape to keep mask sealed off and safe. Tape to outside of bag the paper outlining use and cleaning instructions. Place in grocery bag to give away as directed above.

Cleaning work space after sewing or cutting:

Say a prayer. Wipe down the table, flat surface, or cutting board, you used with an EPA cleaner listed below. Keep wet for FOUR MINUTES. set a timer. Air dry. Put away.

Say a prayer. Wipe down your sewing machine with EPA cleaner, pay attention the places you touched the most. Keep wet for FOUR MINUTES. Set timer. Air dry.

Q: Can I use gloves at home when working on the masks, biased binding or dropping off?

A: Yes, do what makes you feel comfortable while working on this project. Be mindful of the iron.

Q: Can I clean my scissors, rulers, bias binding maker, or other sewing tools with EPA cleaners.

A: If you think that would be best, do so. Keep in mind prolonged contact might damage metal.

**Short list of EPA common cleaners:**

Bleach: mix as directed

Clorox Disinfecting Bleach2: mix as directed

Clorox Performance Bleach1: mix as directed

Clorox Disinfecting Wipes

Clorox Multi Surface Cleaner + Bleach

Lysol Disinfectant Spray

Lysol Multi-Purpose Cleaner with Bleach

Lysol Multi-Purpose Cleaner with Hydrogen Peroxide

Lysol® Brand All Purpose Cleaner

Lysol® Disinfecting Wipes (All Scents)

The entire EPA list (List N) can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>. All 287 entries. Hand sanitizer is regulated by the FDA and worth its weight in gold right now, might want to save it for shopping trips.