

# Understanding the Differences – Respirators, Masks, & Cloth Face Covers (Revised 4/20/2020)



	<b>N95 Respirator</b>	<b>Surgical N95 Respirator</b>	<b>Surgical Mask</b>	<b>Comfort Mask</b>	<b>Cloth Face Cover</b>
<b>INTENDED USE</b>	Non-medical Workers	Healthcare Workers	Healthcare Workers & Patients	General Public	General Public
<b>INTENDED PROTECTION</b>	Wear	Wear	Wearer (Splash Only) & Others	Others	Others
<b>TESTING &amp; APPROVAL</b>	NIOSH	NIOSH & FDA	FDA	None	None
<b>FACE SEAL FIT</b>	Tight-fitting	Tight-fitting	Loose-fitting	Loose-fitting	Loose-fitting
<b>CERTIFICATION MARKINGS</b>	Required	Required	None	None	None
<b>FIT TEST REQUIRED</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
<b>MEDICAL CLEARANCE</b>	Required	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM</b>	OSHA-required	OSHA-required	Facility-determined	None	None
<b>USER SEAL CHECK</b>	Required	Required	None	None	None
<b>FILTRATION</b>	> 95%	> 95%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>FLUID RESISTANT</b>	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>STRAPS</b>	2	2	1 or 2	1	0, 1, or 2
<b>LEAKAGE</b>	Minimal	Minimal	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
<b>USAGE LIMITS</b>	Single-use*	Single-use*	Single-use	Single-use	Reusable

\* Extended wear and re-use may be authorized when approved by the bureau safety program following CDC guidelines. Decontamination and re-use is not authorized.