Facial Coverings in Food Service

Quick Reference Guide

Facial guidance continues to evolve around the use of facial coverings for the general public, including recent guidance that it is possible any face covering may provide some measure of protection. If desired, you have the option to wear a face-covering in a food establishment. Continue to abide by all state and local requirements.

Cloth face coverings SHOULD:
- be clean and in good repair
- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secure
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried

Facial coverings SHOULD NOT:
- have anything hanging off the facial covering that would create a food safety hazard
- have holes or tears

Storage of Facial Coverings
- Stored with personal items
- On the wearer’s face
- Laundered on a daily basis
- Facial coverings should not be shared with others

Wearing a facial covering
- Wash your hands before and after putting a facial covering in place
- Do not to touch the facial covering again until you remove it
- Facial coverings should be positioned so that there is no need to adjust or otherwise touch the face frequently
- If your facial covering becomes soiled, or hard to breathe through you should remove and not wear again until laundered
- Remove your facial covering to eat and drink and if it is still in good repair, you may continue to use it for the duration of your shift

Should cloth face coverings be washed? How regularly?
Yes. They should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?
A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a face covering.

How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?
Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

Note: Homemade and disposable facial coverings do not meet the standard for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and should not be used for tasks that require PPE such as biohazard clean up or handling concentrated chemicals.


For more information contact CO-HELP
303-389-1687 or 1-877-462-2911
COHELP@RMFD.org
https://covid19.colorado.gov/