



Non-medical Masks Sewing Instructions

1



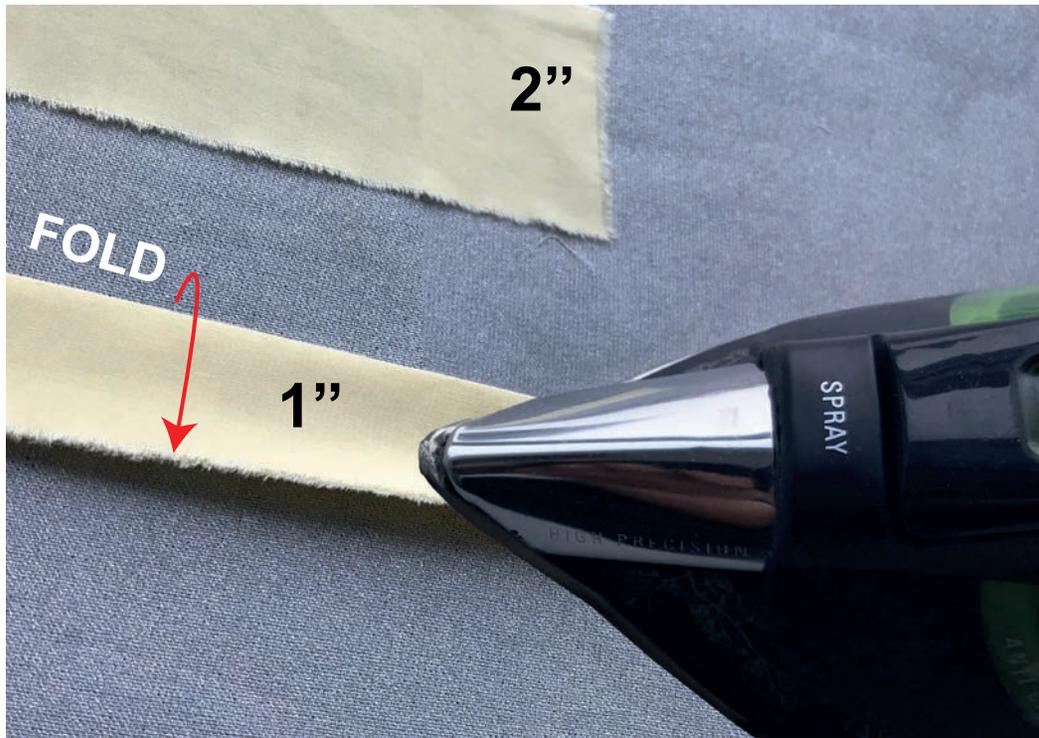
In the package for 25 masks that we delivered you will find:

- 50 rectangles for the face mask cut in a printed fabric (2 pieces per mask)
- 50 long rectangular pieces in a contrast fabric, used for the mask ties (2 per mask)

*Tip:

Use the paper patterns to cut a mask from some scrap fabric at home and practice sewing up your own mask, using these instructions.

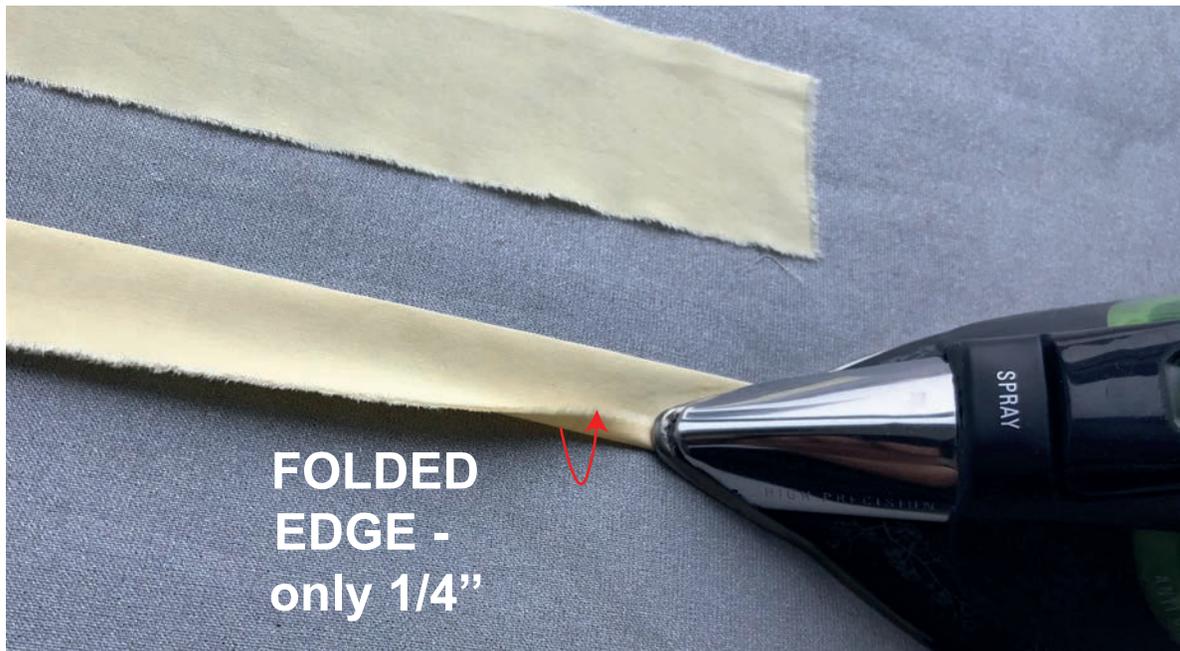
2



Preparation:

Before you begin sewing you must pre-crease the bindings that are used to create the 2 mask ties. Fold in half lengthwise and press.

3



One end of each mask tie needs an additional pre-crease. Fold up 1/4" along the raw edge and press. It is only necessary to pre-crease the last 3" of each tie to act as a guide to sewing.

4



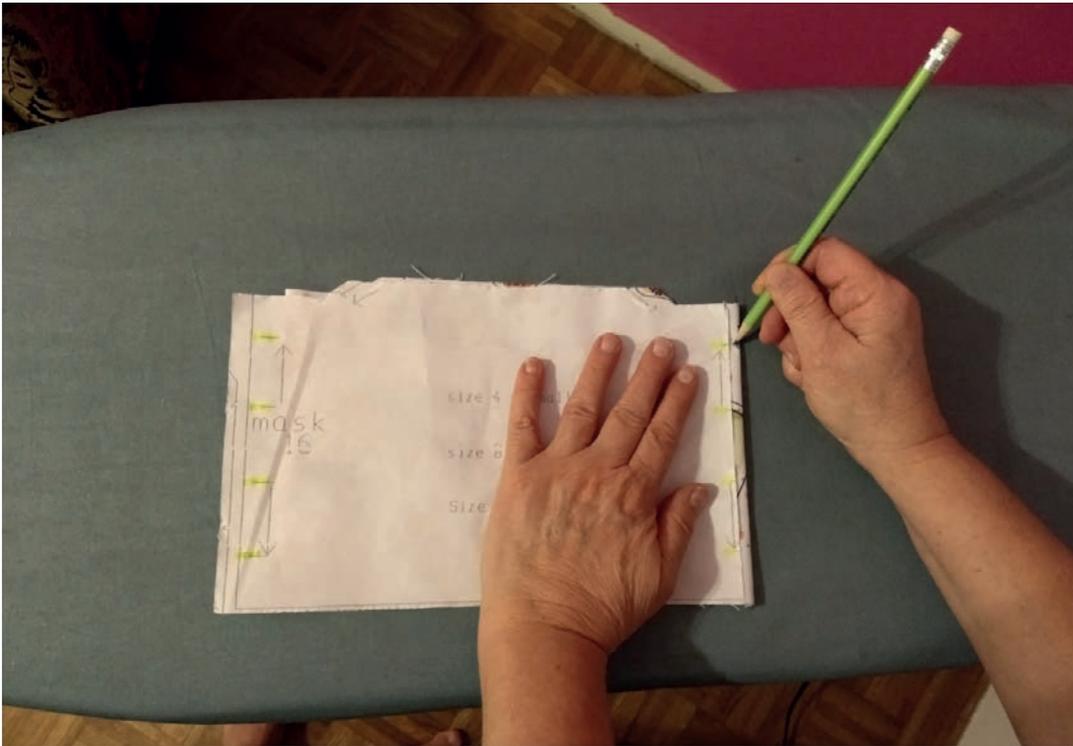
Each mask is made with two plies of fabric. The outside of the mask will show the printed fabric, but the inside will utilize the white, unprinted side of the fabric. This will act as a visual clue for the person wearing the mask, the white side is placed next to your face. DO NOT put both mask plies with right sides together as you normally would. As shown in this photo, match the right side of the fabric in the top ply to the wrong side of the fabric for the bottom ply and stitch the side seams together at $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance (SA).

5



Turn the mask right side out. Finger press the side seams so the seam rolls toward the wrong side of the mask.

6



Using a pencil and the pattern, mark the pleat placement on the mask. First, transfer the pleat marks from one edge of the mask to the other. Then mark the mask.

7



Pin the pleats on the mask side seam as indicated by the arrows on the pattern. It is important to place the side pleats in the opposite direction; the top one toward the top of the mask, and the bottom one toward the bottom of the mask. Small notches at the top of the mask are folded toward the side seam, this provides a better fit along the bridge of the nose.

8



The pleat underlay must touch each other.

9



Staystitch around the mask contour, fixing the pleats, at a SCANT $\frac{1}{4}$ " SA. By scant we mean slightly less than $\frac{1}{4}$ ", keep in mind you want subsequent stitching to cover this staystitch.

10



Fold the mask binding strip in half and mark the centre point with a pin. Lay the mask binding tie strip down on the bed of the machine so that the folded edge is on the left and the raw edge is on the right. The end of the mask binding tie strip should be folded like this on the table.

11



Position the **WRONG** side of the mask (white side) next to the mask tie. The printed side will be up. Pin at the centre notch and at each end of the mask. Staystitch the binding to the mask, keep staystitching aligned with the previous line of stitching (at a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " SA).

12



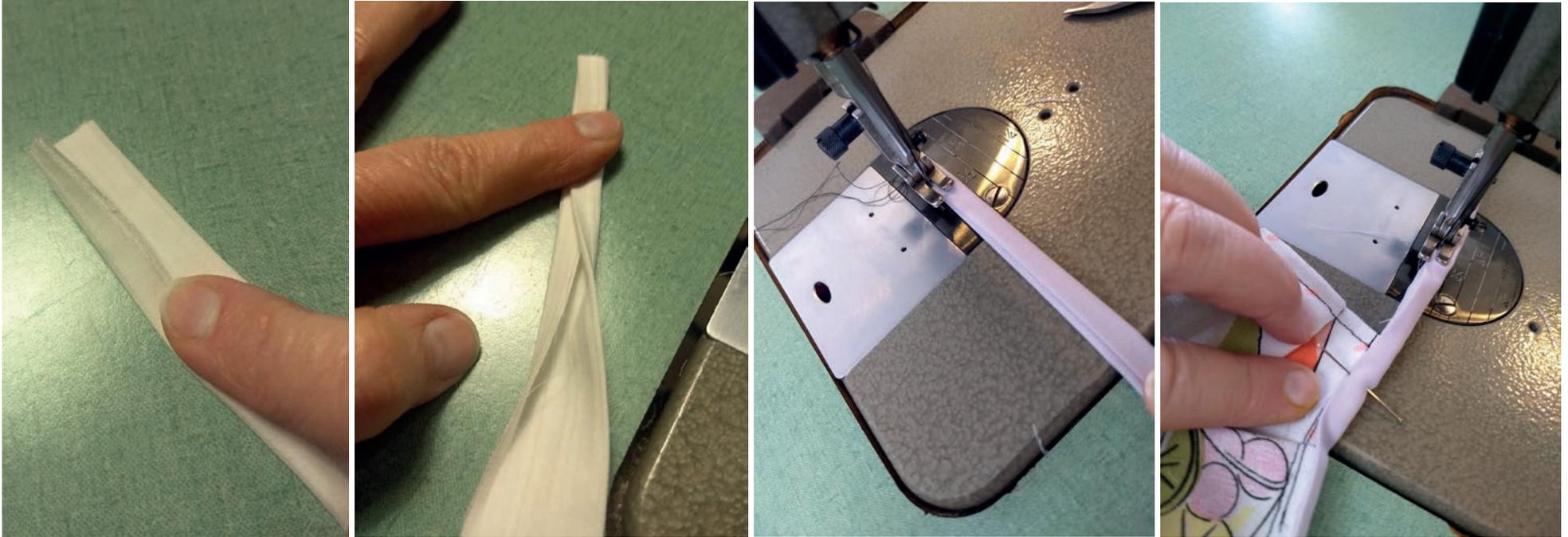
Finger press all layers of the seam allowance toward the mask binding tie strip.

13



Fold the mask binding tie strip over to the printed side of the mask (enclosing all the seam allowance) and pin so that your seam stitching is concealed.

14



Next we will sew the tie to the mask. Begin stitching at the end of the mask binding strip. Fold so that the 3" segment with the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance aligns with the folded edge of the mask tie. Pull the mask tie strip with tension and sew a 6-8" segment, stop with the needle down, reposition the folded edges and stitch another 6-8" segment. When stitching align the inside of the left presser foot toe with the folded edge of the binding, this will act as a guide when sewing the tie. Continue stitching, once you reach the mask pull the binding over the seam allowance to cover the previous lines of staystitching. Shape along the nose pleats. Repeat on the alternate side of the mask.

15



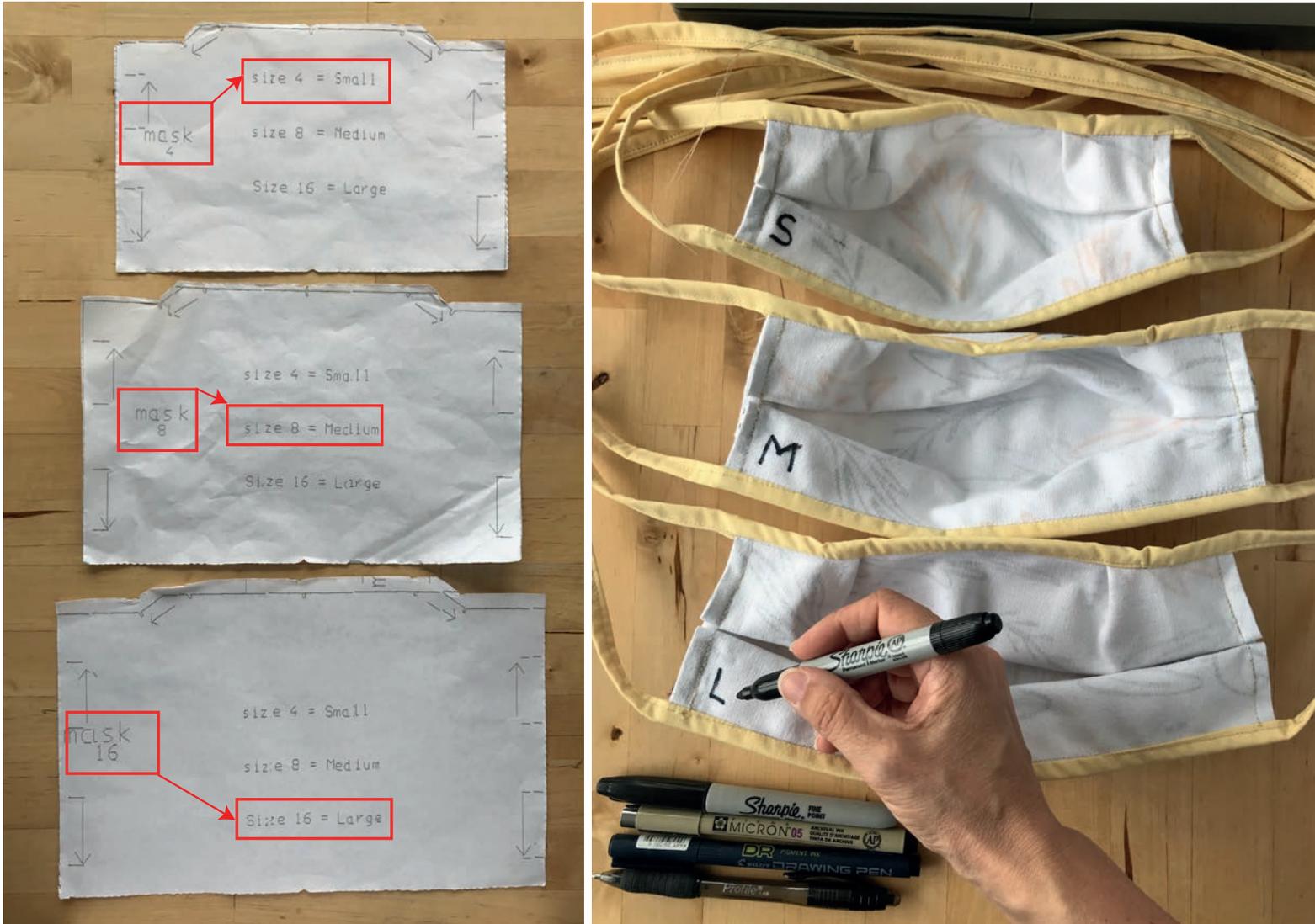
Quality Control:
When sewing the mask ties
your needle may “fall off” the seam.
Check this, If it happens,
simply re-stitch the segment.

16



Trim all loose threads.
Put finished masks in the bag,
be sure to include the pattern
as this indicates the mask size.

17



Last Step!
With a Sharpie, write the size on every mask.

Production Tip 1



After completing one or two masks, we suggest you work using an assembly method to complete this batch of 25 masks. Press all the mask ties now.

Production Tip 2



We suggest you sew the masks using production assembly methods. Sew all the mask side seams in a batch. Backstitch at the start and end of each side seam but do not trim the thread, leave a small segment of stitching between each one. This is called chaining. Once you have stitched the side seams, trim into individual masks. This will make sewing 25 masks much quicker than sewing one by one.

Dear volunteers,

If you have any questions, please ask them directly on the FB group.

I am sure that this group will become a good opportunity to celebrate our involvement together.

During you make your masks, if you want to share tips with others or if you want to show your great work in progress or at the end of your sewing, please feel free to share your photos and comments with us by email or publicly on our FB private group for this project:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/solidaritymaskstoronto>.

Thank you very much for your contribution in this important quest.

With our skills and talent, we are doing our best to help the hospitals and the actual health system in general.

Cheers,

Danielle, Sandra and Tricia

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