



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
86TH AIRLIFT WING (USAFE)**

6 April 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR 86 AIRLIFT WING AND TENANT ORGANIZATIONS

FROM: 86 AW/CC

SUBJECT: Use of Cloth Face Coverings

1. According to the Department of Defense memorandum dated 5 April 2020, the “DoD supports, and will continue to implement, all measures necessary to mitigate risks to the spread of [COVID-19]...” We are all strongly encouraged to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on the use of cloth face coverings in all public settings or where other physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain. These measures work to prevent the spread of the virus and do not replace the need for physical distancing and effective hygiene practices (i.e., washing hands and sanitizing workstations).
2. The Department of Defense memorandum also requires that on all military installations (to include DoD property and facilities), all individuals (military, DoD civilian employees, family members, DoD contractors, and others) will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain six feet of physical distancing in public areas or work centers. This direction applies to all Air Force installations in the Kaiserslautern Military Community, and all 86 Airlift Wing installations throughout Europe, to include Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal, and Norway.
  - a. A face covering is not required to be worn inside a military member or family member’s residence.
  - b. A face covering is required when visiting all shopping and customer service facilities on a military installation, such as the Base Exchange, commissary, food court, Shoppette, Post Office, etc.
  - c. Security checkpoints may require the lowering of face covers for identification purposes.
3. As N-95 and surgical masks should be reserved for health care workers, members are encouraged to fashion face coverings from common materials or clean household items such as t-shirts. Pre-designed face coverings such as neck gaiters or scarves (worn over the nose and mouth), and balaclavas are also acceptable. Follow the CDC guidance and instructional video located at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>, or in Attachment 1 (Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Face Covering Fact Sheet).
4. Military members in uniform must continue to present a neat and professional appearance and, therefore, may only wear masks in the following colors/patterns: tan, coyote brown, sage, olive green, white, black, or OCP/ABU pattern (covering pattern must match uniform style worn by member).
5. All other grooming and appearance standards will remain in place. If you have any questions please contact my front office staff at DSN 314-480-8686.

MARK R. AUGUST  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Commander

Attachment:  
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Face Covering Fact sheet, 6 April 2020