

# Face Masks and Coverings – Confused?

Call the Helpline – We are still here to support you



01491 525 639



[info@goringandstreatleyhelpline.co.uk](mailto:info@goringandstreatleyhelpline.co.uk)

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The information about whether to wear face coverings and when to wear one is ever changing so always check [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) for the latest update. Some general help for you:

A face MASK is also sometimes known as PPE or **personal protective equipment**. These are used in many situations and are designed to various different levels and standards of safety. They are generally needed (for the COVID-19 situation) in medical situations, such as for hospital staff, carers and ambulance workers.

A face COVERING is made of material (normally cotton) and goes over the nose and mouth. It can be home made, purchased or even improvised (e.g. a scarf or bandana that ties behind the head).

A face *mask* CAN be used instead of a face *covering*, but a face *covering* CANNOT be used in a situation where a face *mask* is required. The government asks that people do not use medical grade PPE masks, to ensure these remain available for frontline staff.

At the time of publishing (15/06/2020) government recommendations are that you wear a face COVERING on public transport and in other enclosed spaces – please read the advice in the Government link below: -



[Staying Safe Outside Your Home](#)

Public transport operators may stop you travelling on their transport without one or impose some other penalty. Please see the links to check exemptions and get further details as these are subject to change.



[Travel guidance For Passengers](#)

The UK government requirements for how to wear and make a face covering can be found by following the link below: -



[UK Government Face Coverings Guidelines](#)

The World Health Organisation also has guidelines on how to make a face covering: -

 [WHO Face Coverings](#)

It is your choice which to follow but as a minimum you must follow the UK government advice.

### Local Information on Face Covering Requirements

Locally people are also asked to wear a face COVERING if they visit either the Goring or Woodcote GP surgeries. A scarf is sufficient so do not delay going to the GP if they have asked you to do so.

If you are attending A&E at the Royal Berkshire Hospital you will be required to socially distance and a **face MASK will be provided to you.**

 [Royal Berks Hospital Visiting](#)

At the John Radcliffe A&E you will be met at the door and informed where to go and what to do. You do not need a face covering to go to A&E at the John Radcliff at the moment. DO NOT delay going to the hospital if you need A&E because you are worried about not having a face covering. DO NOT delay calling 999 in an emergency either, face masks will be provided when needed.

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*Several local charities are making face coverings in exchange for a donation of your choosing. Please think about supporting them before buying a commercial one. More info is available from the helpline.*

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