Filter Opening Face Mask Pattern
By Carol Best

NOTE: Please use only tightly woven 100% cotton fabrics. Please wash in hot water without detergent or softener. Please do NOT add a nose piece (wires proving not to hold up with multiple washings).

1. Cut 2 pieces of cotton fabric at 9x7-1/2”
2. Turn top edge twice to cover raw edges and top stitch both pieces.
3. Mark sides at 3/4” from top and bottom edges, then mark 1/2” toward center from that mark as shown in diagram.
4. Shorten your stitch length (mine is at 2.50, I set it at 1.90 – yours may be different numbers). This makes a more secure stitches to help hold up to frequent washes.
5. Stitch a 3/8” seam allowance. Start at the top opening (back stitch) and skip over side elastic leaving them open and then finish at the other side of the turned top area (be sure to back stitch).
6. Turn your mask right side out and iron.
7. Make pleat creases by folding the rectangle in half and then bring the top and bottom to that center fold and iron those two folds.
8. Pin your pleats in place, insert elastic in openings about 1/2” in and top stitch around the perimeter (be sure to back stitch the elastic a couple times to ensure they remain secured) – do NOT stitch over the finished opening.
9. Iron the pleats and tug on elastic to ensure the stitch quality will hold up!

Thank you for making masks for your community! Together we will get through this pandemic! Stay Safe!