

Helpful information regarding facial coverings provided by Melissa DeRoche,
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator/Public Information Officer at Central Michigan
District Health Department:

Any face covering is better than nothing and the requirement is for a “facial covering”, no specification regarding what type. According to the CDC, an appropriate facial covering has multiple layers of fabric. Neck gators are not recommended unless they can be folded over to have multiple layers covering the mouth and nose.

· Neck gators are usually a single layer of cotton or synthetic materials. The material is thin and stretchy, which means a decreased ability to contain droplets. Anything stretchy will be worse as the size of the “filter” will get bigger and less effective.

· Two layers of tightly woven cotton, such as quilting fabric or cotton sheets are preferred for cloth face coverings.

According to the CDC an appropriate mask:

- * fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- * completely covers the nose and mouth
- * is secured with ties or ear loops
- * includes multiple layers of fabric
- * allows for breathing without restriction
- * can be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape