

It's Not a Mask If It's Fake

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, masks have become a must have commodity. It is essential for daily life and safety.

As the toll of the pandemic continues to rise, the need for facemasks cannot be overemphasized. Producers and textile companies now ship facemasks in and out of the country daily. These masks come in different sizes, shapes and design.

The aim is to create something that can identify with an individual's unique tastes. Trendy labels too are not left out and even expensive brands now rock their own face masks. The market is also quite unrestrictive, allowing almost anyone to partake in the production of these facemasks.

But there is a pitfall though - fake facemasks are now being produced.

Usually, fakes were easy to spot. Now, they are a lot harder. Lots of practice have made them good; Good at deceiving unsuspecting users. With an original sample, they work at producing a replica with the exact same pattern and size of the original but without the protection it offers.

This means they get to make more profit while investing less in production. Bad news is, they are pretty much more affordable, hence most people tend to opt for them, thereby increasing consumer use and boosting more production.

" I just bought a facemask, how do I know if it's fake?"

First off, you need to be able to identify what makes a good mask.

Here's some pointers below:

- **Fabric quality**

A good facemask uses at least two layers of a tightly sewn cotton fabric. If it has three layers, that's an added bonus. The layers act as an absorbable barrier between the user and the respiratory droplets while still allowing one to breathe comfortably. Single layered facemasks are a no. Dust, droplets and other airborne materials can easily gain access to the respiratory organs.

- **Face Fit**

A mask with a loose edge is no mask at all. This is because airborne pathogens will still find their way to the nose or mouth of the user through such loopholes. The face mask needs to fit snugly from the nose to the chin

and back to the ear of the user. It also has to be comfortable enough so you don't have to remove it to breathe properly while in public.

- **Mask Durability**

Most fabric masks are not disposable. This means you have to wash and wear. This is where material quality comes into play. A good facemask material should be resistant to wear and tear for at least 2 weeks of use. Additionally, the material should not shrink after washing. Such shrinkage is often a sign that a very poor material has been used in such mask production. If you're going to order online, make sure to check for reviews of the comments about wear and tear of the mask you are about to buy.

Simple DIY hacks to help you spot a Fake!

What's DIY? It's a simple acronym for Do It Yourself. Yes! You do not need a medical expert to help you spot a fake. You can do it yourself and at your own convenience too.

Here's a few hacks.

- **The flame test.** Now before alarm bells ring in your head, let me explain what this means. All you need is a lighter and a sample of the mask you've bought. Once you've worn the mask, hold the lighter flame in front of you inches from your face and try to blow out the flame. If you can successfully blow out the flame with your mask on, you've got a fake.
- **Water test.** Put some water into the inner side of the mask. If it is double or triple layered, water would not seep through freely. This means that it cannot permit the transmission of the virus through respiratory fluids.
- **Light test.** A simple flashlight or lighting device can do the trick. To detect a well layered mask, only minimal light can reflect or pass through the fabric. If the mask is single layered, the light rays will freely pass through. If you notice this, it's proof your mask is fake or low quality.

"I don't know where to find quality masks with double layers"

If this is your concern, then [Global Custom Masks](#) got you covered. With shipping and delivery to all parts of the world, their **Covid Block Masks (CBM)**

has not two but three layers aimed at providing triple protection to users against airborne pathogens. And that's not all, they're affordable and reliable. Available for bulk ordering and purchase across the US, Philippines and other parts of the world.

Covid Block Masks (CBMs) are designed to be user friendly at the same time offering protection to users at a maximal comfort rate.

Use CBM, Stay Safe.

Remember, it's not a mask, if it's fake!