When do you need your mask?

Washington is fully open on June 30 and our guidance on masks has changed, but it’s a good idea to carry one with you, since the rules about masks may be different depending on where you are and what you’re doing.

Read the Secretary of Health’s masking order.

Fully vaccinated* people do not need to wear masks in most settings, but you should keep a mask handy for places where they are still required.

People who are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear a mask in indoor public settings such as grocery stores and movie theaters. This includes children over the age of two, under adult supervision. There is a real risk to children who are not yet eligible to be vaccinated. Parents are encouraged to model good masking behavior for their kids, even if they are fully vaccinated.

Masks are not required outdoors. People who are unvaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings such as sporting events, fairs, concerts and similar settings where it’s hard to maintain physical distance.

All people, regardless of vaccination status, must wear masks in some settings:

- **Public transportation** and in transportation hubs including airports, bus or ferry terminals, and trains.
- **Child care facilities, camps, K-12 schools** or other child-focused settings when children are present or expected to be present.
- **Health care settings like hospitals**, long-term care, or doctors’ offices; correctional facilities and homeless shelters.
- **Businesses and local governments can set more protective mask requirements, even though some state restrictions have been lifted.** That’s why we say respect the rules of the room you’re in — the rules may change depending on where you are.
- **Masking requirements may be different for your place of work than for the general public, depending on the type of work you do.** Masking guidance for employers is available on the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries website.

No one is required to wear a mask during outdoor sports practice or competition. People who are not fully vaccinated must wear a mask during indoor practices and competitions with some limited exceptions that will be designated by DOH.

Some people are exempt from wearing a mask. Children younger than two and people with certain medical conditions are not required to wear a mask.

*Someone is considered fully vaccinated two weeks or more after their second dose of Pfizer/Moderna or two weeks after receiving the single dose J&J vaccine.