

Pandemic Prepping Update: 5 Mask Facts

with Buck Greene for www.ModernCombatAndSurvival.com

1. The Government LIED To You

I'm not going to lie, I'm a little upset about this. And I hate to invoke imagery this stark, but it immediately reminded me of something very bad: September 11th, 2001.

- People were told to stay put when the attack happened on September 11th. The ones who stayed were killed when the Twin Towers collapsed. The ones who disobeyed and got out early enough were the ones who survived.
- The gov't told us not to wear masks, and our media told us over and over that masks might even make problems WORSE for us. Now the government has admitted that we should ALL be wearing masks to help mitigate the spread.
- This whole thing underscores the fact that we've got to think for ourselves, and weigh the benefits and risks as we see them.

2. Masks Are Common Sense

We all should have been wearing masks since this started. They're not a guarantee, but they hurt nothing and they absolutely help. This just makes common sense.

- The way you get this virus, primarily, is to get splattered with droplets from other people's mouths.
- A mask helps inhibit you from spreading this around while providing SOME protection from other people breathing it on YOU.
- A good mask coupled with a pair of goggles or even wrap around sunglasses is even better protection.
- Even if you're not "air-locking" your stuff the way we describe in our pandemic response guide, this will HELP at least a little!

3. People Are Coming Around

In foreign countries that historically have had a problem with pollution, everybody had masks because they have a "mask culture."

- If you watch TikTok (a Chinese social media app) you have seen Asian people of both sexes commonly wearing masks.
- People looked at me funny early on when I went to the grocery store wearing a mask and rubber gloves, but now, everyone is being told they SHOULD be wearing masks.
- Unfortunately, there are still lots of people moving around in public spaces (like grocery stores) who aren't wearing masks (some of whom aren't even maintaining distance).

4. Mask Shortages

Authorities and the media tried to discourage mask use so there would be more available for first responders, which makes sense, but they never should have told us not to cover our faces with SOMETHING (hence the new guidelines from the CDC for "face coverings").

- Surgical masks sold out in the UK early on. That should have been our signal to buy.
- Even a "dust mask" is better than nothing.

5. Making Your Own Mask

Even a cotton t-shirt can be reasonably effective in cutting your risk.

- A variety of other materials, including replaceable filter inserts, vacuum bags, HEPA filters, etc. can be used.
- A buff or face shield is the thinnest level of protection, but a good idea when you're outside and not in contact with others.

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