

Face Mask Extension Band Project

Video tutorial available at sewintooverlocking.com



Requirements

- 1" wide elastic - one piece 5" long
- 2 pieces of fabric cut 1 ¾" wide x 6" long
- 2 buttons
- 2 safety pins
- Fray stop
- Scissors
- Overlocker
- 3 spools overlocker thread
- Sewing machine

Method

Set your overlocker for a 3 thread narrow hem – right needle only, remove stitch finger like you would for a rolled hem, shorten the stitch length 1-1.5, leave the tensions balanced on 3 or 4 (whatever your standard setting is).

For a baby lock no tension overlocker stitch selector C stitch length 1.5 rolled hem.

Take the two pieces of fabric wrong sides together and stitch both the long sides trimming a small amount of fabric as you stitch. Pic 1



Insert safety pins in both ends of the elastic (pic 2) and feed one end through the casing you have stitched until the elastic is all the way through and the end of the elastic can be seen sticking out of the opening.



Using a sewing machine, stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each short end to secure the elastic inside the casing.

Return to the overlocker and stitch the short ends using the narrow hem, pic 3

Use fray stop on all four corners, let it dry then attach buttons on the bands to support the elastic from your mask.



Adjust the size of these bands to your needs, if cutting the elastic longer then cut the fabric 1-2" longer than your elastic to allow for the stretch. Stretch jersey can be used as well as woven fabrics.

I hope this project makes wearing masks a little easier/ more comfortable for you.
Stay well, stay safe, keep smiling, keep sewing – it is a superpower!
Kate xo