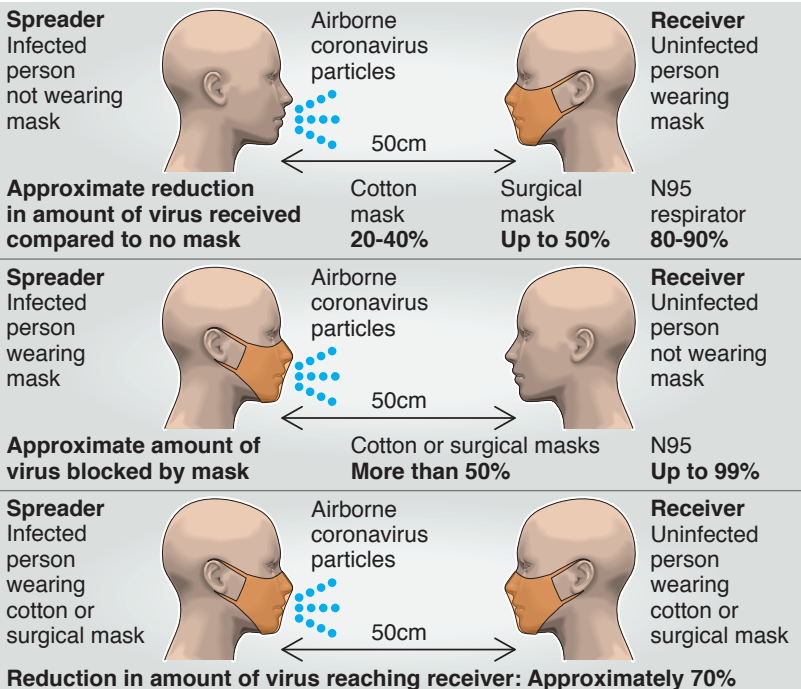


# Do face masks protect the wearer from coronavirus?

Face masks can help slow the spread of coronavirus to other people, but updated guidance from the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests that masks may also protect wearers who are not infected, though to a lesser degree

*CDC update refers to recent research that indicates masks can offer protection from virus particles in the air*



**Note:** Research indicates that even professional-grade face coverings cannot eliminate infection risk entirely. CDC does not recommend using face masks alone. Hand hygiene, social distancing and being in well-ventilated areas are important to curb spread of disease