



Buttoned Ear Protector for Face Masks

Umbrella Hacking in response to Covid 19 How to guide by Jeni Roddy



About This Hack

Healthcare workers are calling for buttoned ear protectors to hold back the elastic on their facemasks to protect the back of their ears.

This hack sprang to mind as a great solution: if you have a broken umbrella lying around the house, here's how you can use the umbrella tab to make a buttoned ear protector to use yourself or to donate to your local hospital or care home.

Skill level: Beginner

Umbrella Orphanage

Umbrella Orphanage is a project by artist Jeni Roddy to rescue and transform broken umbrellas into functional artworks. It was commissioned and curated by Ríonach Ní Néill for Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann, a project for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture which aims to turn our bad weather to good use, and make Galway the place to be because it rains and blows.

These Umbrella Hacks are Jeni's response to the Covid-19 crisis, and we hope they will be of use to you.
Created at home during the lockdown.

www.hopeitrains.ie | www.jeniroddy.com

Irish & English guides available | Treoir Gaeilge & Béarla ar fáil

What you'll need for this hack



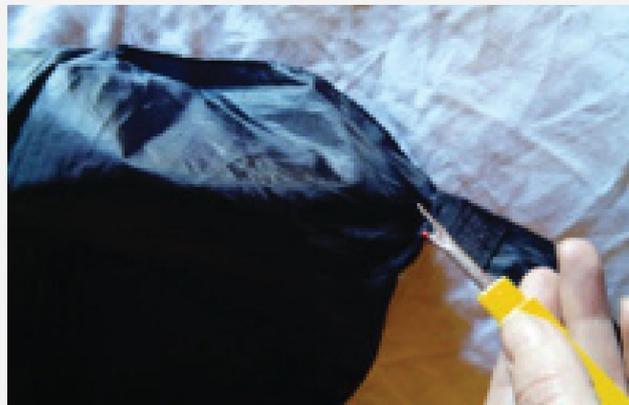
- 1 x Broken Umbrella
- Thread, Matching or Contrasting
- Straight Pins (any type)
- Scissors
- Tape Measure
- Seam ripper
- 2 x Buttons 1.2cm min diameter
- Sewing Machine with straight stitch at length 2.5 or 3.
If you have no sewing machine please follow the same instructions using hand-stitching.

8 Simple Steps



STEP 1

I have made the total length of the ear protector 14cm, with the buttons 11cm apart. You can change these measurements to what is comfortable and suits you.



STEP 2

Unpick the tab from the canopy, being careful not to make a hole in the canopy.



STEP 3

Unpick the hook and loop (velcro) squares from the tab.



STEP 4

Fold back the edges of the tab and pin down to make it length 14cm (or your chosen length).



STEP 5

Hand stitch the tab ends down using a whip stitch or on the machine around the edges of the overlap to make a neat strip.



STEP 6

Measure 1.5cm in from each end on the top side, pin the placement



STEP 7

Stitch buttons at pin placements.



STEP 8

Wear yourself or give to someone who needs one!

Your buttoned ear protector



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