Clear Mask Resource List

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that alternative masks be used for special situations. Clear masks or cloth masks with a clear plastic panel are an alternative type of mask that may be helpful when interacting with certain groups of people, such as people who are deaf or hard of hearing, young children or students learning to read, students learning a new language, people with disabilities, and people who need to see the proper shape of the mouth for making appropriate vowel sounds.¹

The National Association of the Deaf says, "For communication access, clear masks are better than masks such as cloth masks, surgical masks, or N-95 masks. Keep in mind, some clear masks still block parts of the face. Clear masks may also become fogged while being worn.

See chart on right with descriptions on some available clear masks.

These products are listed for informational purposes only. The North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH) does not endorse any product, cannot guarantee how effectively the product will perform, cannot guarantee that the product is in stock and cautions that prices may vary. This is not an exhaustive list of all masks on the market. You can search trusted websites for other available products. DSDHH is not responsible for misuse of masks mentioned.

Product	Photo	Mask Per Pack	Reusable or Single Use	Strap or Tie Type	Cleaning and Care	Medical Use	ASTM Level Designation	Cost
<u>The</u> Communicator Level 1		40/Box 400/Case	Single	Elastic ear loops	Disposable	Yes	Level 1	\$60/Box \$540/Case
<u>The</u> <u>Communicator</u> <u>Level 3</u>		40/Box 400/Case	Single	Elastic ear loops	Disposable	Yes	Level 3	\$62/Box \$550/Case
Face View Masks		3 or 20	Single	Elastic ear loops	Disposable	No	N/A	\$14/Box of 3 \$39.75/Box of 20

Keeping windows on clear masks from fogging up: Some mask companies sell anti-fogging wipes or treatment for masks. *The North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing does not endorse any product.*

References:

- 1. CDC Guidance: Alternate Masks for Special Situations
- 2. Best Practices for Wearing Masks When Communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing People
- 3. Use of Clear Mask to Improve Communication Brochure
- 4. How to Communicate with Your Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind Patient
- 5. ASTM Information

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