

# COVID-19 Guidelines for TV and Film Productions

Exposure Prevention of COVID-19 and other flu-like viruses on the set

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These guidelines are compiled based on the [CDC](#) and [Opening America Again](#) guidelines. National Set Medics employ an in-house COVID-19 consultant and Medical Director. National Set Medics have in-field experience testing tens of thousands of construction workers

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## Introduction:

It's time to get back to work; safely and confidently. We are equipped and eager to get back out there as much as you are. That's why we put together these best practices. These guidelines, along with one of our National Set Medics on location, will help you reduce the risk of your cast or crew getting sick.

Set Medics who are equipped and trained are more important now than ever. During this shutdown, we were blessed to find new life in scanning tens of thousands of construction workers at several sites across the country; including Amazon's new million-square-foot warehouse currently under construction in Dallas, Texas.

We've been in the field, working hard, learning and fine-tuning our scanning procedures. In preparation for the eventual re-launching of productions we have invested thousands of dollars in the right equipment to help open the film industry quickly but safely. We have consulted with our COVID-19 specialists and medical director to put together these best practices.

***When you are ready to roll, so will we!***

## Social Distancing on the Set

- Unessential personnel and "Vulnerable Individuals" <sup>i</sup> should be discouraged from visiting the set until your state hits Phase 3 of the [Opening America Again](#) guidelines
- Clients should be given a dedicated but separate space away from the set.
- Each cast and crew member should provide their own face covering and wear it at all practical times. <sup>ii</sup>
- Social Distancing recommendations:
  1. Social Distancing Reminders on all call sheets Safety Meetings
  2. Six-foot markers at areas where queue lines are expected to form such as meal lines
  3. Stagger meals when possible and separate chairs by 6 feet (*you'll need more tables*)
  4. Limit to one person per row in the transportation van
  5. No congregation rules. Especially in the star wagons, Crafty; anyplace without good ventilation.
  6. Limit on-set personnel to essential crew for the shot; least possible
  7. Video Village – Social distancing guidelines where the seating is in a "checkerboard" format and eliminate all non-essential personnel from the area.

## COVID-19 Guidelines for TV and Film Productions cont.

### Recommended Daily Monitoring Procedure

- Cast and Crew should be required to wash their hands each time they enter the site and periodically throughout the day (*typically 2-3-hour intervals*). Additional wash and sanitation stations are recommended.
- A National Set Medic EMT or Paramedic will scan each cast and crew member's temperature prior to entering the site, after lunch and periodically throughout the day. This needs to be done somewhere away from the elements.
- People with acceptable temperatures (*less than 99.6 °F*)<sup>iii</sup> are given a wristband by the National Set Medic. We provide a different colored wristband each day. Everyone on set needs a wristband.
  - Their temperature is marked on the wristband. (*pictured below*)
  - The National Set Medic will rescan each person after lunch and as necessary throughout the day; notating any significant temperature changes and/or presentations.



### What happens if someone has a temperature?

- People with a temperature of 99.6 °F or higher are given a 15-minute break to rule-out exertion and retested.
  - If the second test is above the threshold, that person is not allowed on site and instructed to visit their medical provider for evaluation.
  - The individual should not be allowed back on set until 1) they provide a letter from their doctor, 2) they no longer present with signs or symptoms.
  - **Why a 15-minute cooldown break?** A hard-working individual or one with many layers of clothing may show an elevated temperature. Once layers are loosened up and exertion stops a healthy person's temperature will return to normal. An individual sick with a virus (COVID-19 or seasonal flu) will retain their elevated temperature.
  - Not all people with COVID-19 have a temperature? *See FAQ's*

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*National Set Medics has invested thousands of dollars in FDA approved no-touch thermometers and high-end thermo cameras in preparation to open the film industry quickly and safely!*

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## COVID-19 Guidelines for TV and Film Productions cont.

### Cast and Crew Personal Responsibilities

All cast and crew members will need to take personal responsibility for the following: This list should be sent to all cast and crew with the call sheet.

- If you are feeling sick or have a temperature over 99.6 don't come in. You will be sent home by the medic before your day starts.
- If you have been around someone who is sick "tested positive" with COVID-19 do not work unless it has been more than 14 days from your last contact.
- Practice Good Hygiene.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water is the best! Hand sanitizer is a good substitute till you can get to soap and water. (*Lotion is a plus to avoid dry/cracked hands*)
  - Avoid touching your face.
  - Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
  - Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible. Especially your personal equipment and property around you & cell phones.
- Each cast and crew member should provide their own face covering and wear it at all practical times.
- Gloves **are not recommended** unless you are handling food or disinfecting equipment.

**Poor glove practices** result in a less sanitary site. Very few people are properly trained in proper glove practice. Good glove policy requires the wearer to change gloves every time a new item is handled and thus impractical on the set. There is a false sense of security with gloves – It protects the person wearing the gloves at the time but increases the spread to everything and everyone else. Good handwashing is more than sufficient to stop the spread and better practice all-together.

### Decontamination and Food Prep Best Practices

- PA's wipe down all surfaces every hour with appropriate wipes. (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets and sinks)
- All food servers wear gloves and use disposable dishes, forks, etc.
- Provide additional hand washing stations / Hand sanitizer stations.
- Provide good air flow at all times possible. For instance, two box fans, one to pull, one to push the air.

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**Feel free to contact us for a consultation. Consultation fees are waived when booking our services. Our COVID-19 consultant and medical director stay up to date with the most recent Best-Practices.**

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## COVID-19 Guidelines for TV and Film Productions cont.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Not all people infected with COVID-19 have a temperature!?**

- True, but they typically have another ailment like borderline temperature or not feeling or looking well. Our medics are looking for this.
- An “asymptomatic” person will often turn “systematic” during the day. The medic is looking for this as well. This is also why we do multiple temperatures checks throughout the day.
- “Asymptomatic” people have a lower rate of transmission because they are not coughing and therefore not spreading respiratory droplets which carry the virus. That is the reason for the other procedures such as: face coverings, lower temperature thresholds, additional hand washing and extra sanitation of commonly touched surfaces.
- No site is 100% risk-free but the guidelines outlined in this document will help catch symptomatic people and protect against any asymptomatic ones. It is important to follow ALL the guidelines.

#### **Face Coverings** (per the CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

***Why wear a face covering?*** Face coverings protect ***Them*** from ***You***. Yes, you read that right. A face covering reduces the transmission of any unknown virus in ***Your*** respiratory system from infecting someone else. Remember, not all people infected with COVID-19 have a temperature, especially the healthy!

Cloth face coverings should—

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
- Be secured with ties or ear loops.
- Include multiple layers of fabric.
- Allow for breathing without restriction.
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.
- Learn more at the link above.

Some examples include:

- Homemade facemasks.
- Neck buff.
- N-95 and surgical masks **ARE NOT** necessary and not recommended. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers.

## COVID-19 Guidelines for TV and Film Productions cont.

### Frequently Asked Questions cont.

#### **How to clean/disinfect your personal equipment?**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

- Wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect.
- Lysol/Clorox wipes and sprays work great, so does alcohol sprays greater than 60%.
- Check your product if “human coronavirus” is listed as a target pathogen.
- The EPA has a list of acceptable disinfectants that kill the virus:  
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

#### **When to Seek Medical Attention** (per the CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include\*:

- Trouble breathing.
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest.
- Abnormal confusion or the inability to awake.
- Bluish lips or face.

\*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

Call 911 if you have a medical emergency: Notify the operator that you have, or think you might have, COVID-19. If possible, put on a cloth face covering before medical help arrives.

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<sup>i</sup> **Vulnerable Individuals** are: 1) Elderly individuals. 2) Individuals with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy.

<sup>ii</sup> **Face Coverings:** Continue to adhere to State and local guidance as well as complementary CDC guidance, particularly with respect to face coverings.

<sup>iii</sup> **WHY 99.6°F?** Normal body temperature ranges from 97.5°F to 99.5°F (36.4°C to 37.4°C). It tends to be lower in the morning and higher in the evening. Most healthcare providers consider a fever to be 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. A person with a temperature of 99.6°F to 100.3°F has a low-grade fever.