

## The Melitta Group does not recommend using coffee filters as protective face masks

During the global pandemic, many individuals are seeking protection for themselves and others, including use of protective masks. Melitta Group cannot and does not recommend using Melitta® coffee filters to protect the mouth and nose as coffee filters are not an adequate medical barrier.

Melitta coffee filters have fine pores that filter particles of a certain size. Corona viruses are many times smaller than this, with a size of 0.12 - 0.16 µm, and are therefore not completely filtered. Coffee filters do not provide adequate protection.

We would also like to stress that home-made protective masks do not necessarily fit as well as masks designed for medical use. If a mask does not fit correctly then it will not provide the best protection.

Another problem is that people may feel safer with the homemade masks and therefore be more careless when it comes to other important hygiene recommendations, such as social distancing, washing hands, etc. An ill-fitting mask could even increase the risk of people becoming infected as it may lead them to touch their face more often and become infected in this way.

We as a family owned company are searching for ways to contribute to solve the worldwide covid19 challenge. For example, Wolf PVG, a subsidiary of the Melitta Group, has started to produce non-woven materials which are used in the production of protective masks.

This non-woven material is designed to meet the requirements necessary for use in a protective face mask. The material is used by specialised companies to professionally and efficiently manufacture protective masks, which are then delivered to medical institutions such as hospitals and nursing homes, etc.

While we are aware of the supply problems for protective masks and the emergency situations associated with this, we ask for your understanding that we are not able to respond to private inquiries. The production capacities of Wolf PVG are running at full capacity to fulfil existing orders.

### The Melitta Group

Melitta is an internationally operating group of companies and is one of the leading independent family businesses both in Germany and abroad. Melitta's main activities are the development, manufacture and sale of branded products for the enjoyment of coffee, for the storage and preparation of food and for household cleanliness. More information can be found at [www.melitta-group.com](http://www.melitta-group.com).

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