Best Fit Face Mask — My Technique

I downloaded the Best Fit Face Mask design and pattern from https://www.prettyhandygirl.com/best-fit-facemask/
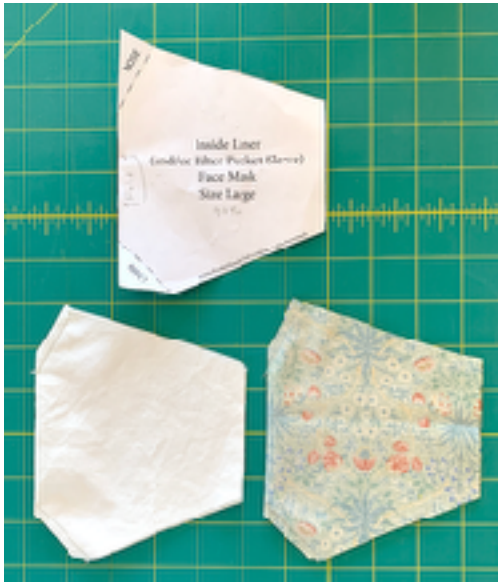If you use it, please give Pretty Handy Girl credit, including the link.

Pretty Handy Girl (PHG) has a great design and an excellent tutorial for making the mask. However, I wanted to streamline the sewing technique for my own use. Here is what I ended up doing that works really well for me and creates a mask that fits me really well and is easily adaptable for other sizes.
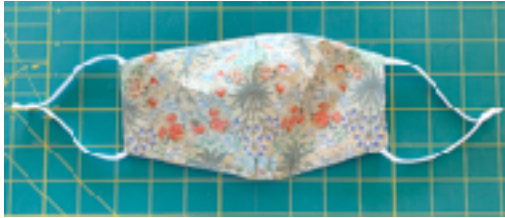
1	Go to https://www.prettyhandygirl.com/best-fit-facemask/ and print out the pattern in the size you want to make. There are links for medium, large, child, small and x-large. I chose large.	
2	Go to the end of the tutorial and print out the "Inside Liner" page at 90%. I tried 100% first and it was too large for me. Experiment to find what works for you. I didn't think of printing at a different percentage until I saw that in PHG's instructions. Brilliant!	

3	Cut around the Inside Liner pattern piece. Write a note on the side where the fabric fold will be. If you changed the percentage for printing, note that on the pattern piece as well.	
4	I used sheet material left over from quilt backing for my lining. Lay out your lining material and fold over a section just wide enough for your pattern piece and pin.	

5	Cut the fabric around the pattern piece.	
6	Lay out your body material and fold over a section just wide enough for your pattern piece and pin. **Note**: If there is a direction to the fabric, make sure you have it facing so the direction matches the nose as the top and chin as the bottom. Cut the fabric around the pattern piece.	

7	Fold the pattern piece back on the two dashed lines. With right sides together, mark next to the dashed lines on both the lining and body pieces.	
8	Right sides together, sew along the lines you drew on both the lining and body pieces.	

9	Trim the corners on both the lining and the body.	
10	Open to the outside of the body. Using either 7 inch strips of 1/4 inch elastic you cut or pre-cut drawstring elastic like I used, lay one end of the elastic in the corner and sew over it and back over it.	
11	Paying attention so you don't twist the plastic, sew the other end on the other corner of the body side.	

12	Repeat steps 10 and 11 for the other side of the body piece.	
13	Right sides together, pin the lining to the body, making sure the elastic stays flat and between the two layers. **Note**: Make sure you pin nose to nose and chin to chin on the two pieces.	
14	Stitch a 1/4 inch seam along three sides, leaving one side open for turning.	
15	Remove pins and turn mask right side out, gently tugging on straps to pull corners all the way out.	
16	Going one small section at a time, iron the edges all the way around, gently folding the open edges inside.	

17	Finally, topstitch 1/8 inch around all the sides.	
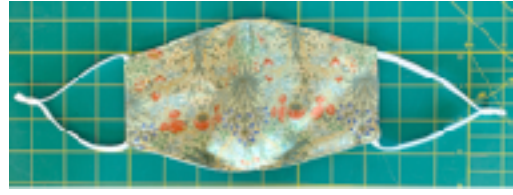
This mask feels comfortable to me. I don't feel like it needs a nose wire but if you want to add one, I recommend cutting 5 inches of double sided bias tape (you can make your own) and then sew it down on three sides on the inside of the nose area and push your wire through. Then stitch down the final side.