

COVID – 19 Guidelines

FOR BARBER SHOPS, BEAUTY SALONS & SPAS



May 20, 2020

Re-Opening Taskforce of the Emergency Operations Center
Government Administration Building
Soualiga Rd #1, Philipsburg

GENERAL:

1. Implement appointment only services; no walk-ins.
2. Stylists/ barbers should keep record of client name, phone number and address as well as appointment date and time for contact tracing purposes.
3. Workstations must comply with social distancing requirements.
4. Ensure thorough workstation and equipment disinfection before and after each customer.
5. Discard any single-use tools (e.g., files, buffers, neck strips) immediately after use.
6. Prohibit the use of waiting areas, unless social distancing of 2 meters is possible.
7. Ensure that customers and employees do not have flu like symptoms before they enter business.
8. Perform regular disinfection of high-touch surface areas.
9. Remove all books, magazines, or any shared material for customers.
10. Place hand sanitizer stations in shop lobby and bathrooms.
11. Open windows and doors where possible to increase ventilation. If this is not possible, ensure that the business has adequate air purifying machines.
12. Do not allow non-customer companions to accompany customer during a service.
13. Do not allow group or communal settings for close contact personal services (e.g. salt rooms, saunas, pools).
14. As it pertains to capes, the following options are being proposed:
 - Increase the number of capes to be able to have enough clean capes available for customers.
 - Switch to disposable capes.
 - Encourage clients to bring their own capes.
15. Customers should wear face masks. Services that require removing face coverings for example beard shaving/trimming, facials etc.
 - For massage, prone positions could be uncomfortable or dangerous for clients who are wearing face coverings. Accordingly, massage professionals may consider other appropriate precautions such as draping a client's head and face cradle cover with a thin cotton pillowcase. Otherwise, a face covering should be worn during portions of treatment in which the client is not prone or facedown.

EMPLOYEE SAFETY:

1. If necessary, employers should arrange COVID-19 training from the Ministry of VSA, which provides an overview of COVID-19 mitigation protocols, including proper use and disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE), and recognition of COVID-19 symptoms. An email should be sent to taskforce@sintmaartengov.org to schedule the training.
2. All employees should be wearing face masks.
3. All employees should be advised to wash and disinfect their hands after every interaction with a customer.

4. At each employee entrance, the establishment should post signs setting forth a checklist of COVID-19 symptoms and instructing employees to remain at home if they experience any of the symptoms.
5. Any staff member showing any flu like symptoms, coughing etc. should not be allowed to come in for work.
6. All employees wash with water & soap or with sanitizer regularly to reduce the risk of surface transmission.

GUIDELINES FROM PUBLIC HEALTH REGARDING THE USE OF FACEMASKS, GLOVES AND FACE SHIELDS

There is no need for the use of face masks, gloves and/or face shields when social distancing of 2 meters is respected and regular hand washing with soap and water or a sanitizer is practiced.

The virus can be contracted by droplets of an infected person by:

1. Being directly inhaled by another person who is less than 2 meters from the infected person through openly coughing, sneezing or having close physical contact such as kissing, hugging or sexual contact.
2. Another person touching his/her mouth, nose or eyes after touching the surface where droplets of an infected person have landed (hence the importance of regularly sanitizing frequently touched objects).

If social distancing of 2 meters cannot be practiced or realized, face masks, worn properly (covering both mouth and nose), are sufficient. Bear in mind that surgical masks need to be properly disposed of after use or after getting wet, and that cloth masks need to be washed regularly. Face masks and gloves can cause a false sense of security, thus becoming more of a liability than an asset. Face masks need to cover both mouth and nose.

Face shields and gloves are only recommended for medical staff closely dealing with confirmed or strongly suspected Covid-19 positive persons as well as food handlers.

Medical masks should be limited to use by health care professionals.