

Changes to restrictions in Victoria

From Thursday 18 February 2021



Easy English



Hard words

This information has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about
- find more information.

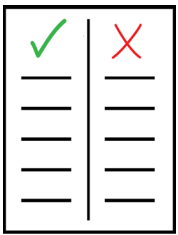


About this book

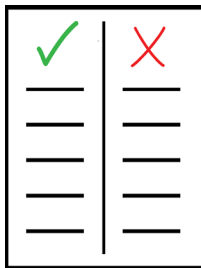


Families,
Fairness
and Housing

This book is by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.



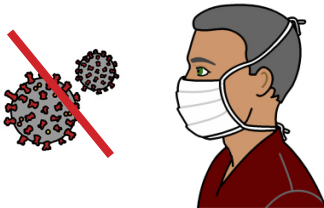
This book is about changes to **restrictions** in Victoria from **Thursday 18 February 2021**.



Restrictions are rules that mean

- we have to do less of some things

and



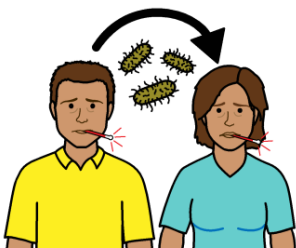
- we help people stay safe from **coronavirus**.



Coronavirus

- can make people very sick

and



- is spread when you are close to someone else.



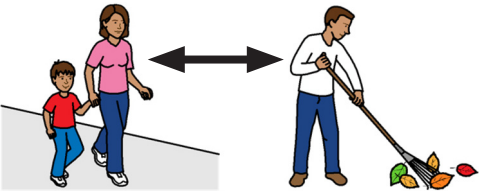
What has changed?

From **Thursday 18 February 2021** some restrictions in Victoria have changed.

When to wear a face mask



A face mask **must** be worn indoors at all times unless you are in your home or someone else's home.



A face mask **must** be worn when you are outside and you **cannot** stay 1.5 metres or 2 big steps away from other people.



You **must** wear a face mask when you

- are at work



- go shopping



- are on public transport or in a taxi.



You **must** always carry a face mask when you leave home and wear it when needed.



You do **not** need to wear a face mask if you have a lawful reason **not** to.

For example, if you have a breathing problem.

When you see other people



You can have up to 5 visitors in your home each day. This includes your back yard and front yard.



The limit does **not** include carers.

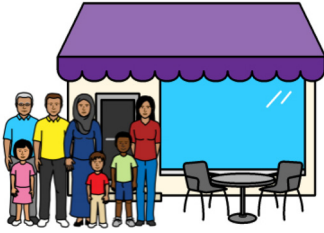


You can meet with up to 20 people outside of your home. For example, at the park or the beach.



You can keep your friends and family safe by meeting outside because you are less likely to catch coronavirus outside.

Restaurants and bars



More people are allowed inside and outside at restaurants and bars.

Ceremonies and religious gatherings

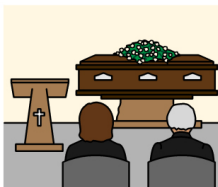


There are some limits to how many people can be at

- religious gatherings



- weddings



- funerals.

Venues will tell you how many people can be at these events.



A wedding or gathering at your home can only have 5 people.

Important things to remember



You **must**

- carry a face mask when you leave home
- wear a face mask outdoors when you **cannot** stay 1.5 metres or 2 big steps away from other people



- wear a face mask inside unless you are at your house or someone else's house.



It is important to still

- wash your hands often

and



- cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow.



You **must** get tested for coronavirus straight away if you have **symptoms**.

Symptoms are signs that you might be sick.



The symptoms of coronavirus can be

- cough or sore throat



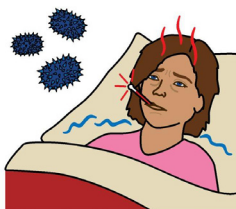
- problems with your breathing



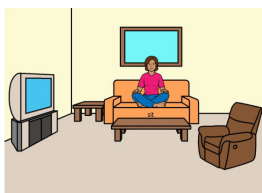
- runny nose



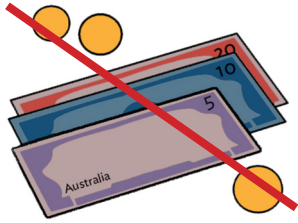
- loss of or change in sense of smell or taste



- fever and chills or sweats.

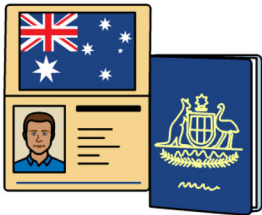


You **must** stay at home until you are **not** sick anymore.



The test for coronavirus is free for everyone.

It is free even if you are **not** a **citizen** or a **permanent resident** of Australia.



Citizen means you belong to a country by law.



Permanent resident means you have a certificate that says you can live in Australia.



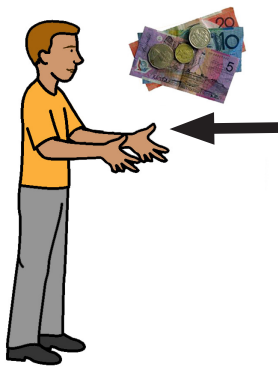
To find out more about how to get tested go to

dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested

What happens if you do not follow the rules?



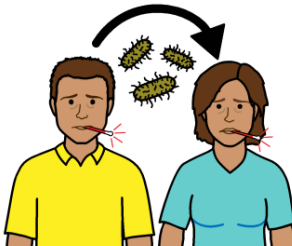
You can be fined a lot of money by the police if you do **not** follow the rules.



Help to stay at home

The government can pay you money to help you if you **cannot** work because

- you have been tested for coronavirus
- you have coronavirus
- you look after or live with someone who has been told to stay at home
- you are a **close contact** of someone with coronavirus.



Close contact means you have been close to someone in the last few days who has coronavirus.

We will tell you if you are a close contact.



For more information call the Coronavirus Hotline

1800 675 398

Press 0 if you need an interpreter.

Other ways to get help



If you feel worried or afraid you can get help.



Call Lifeline

13 11 14



Call Beyond Blue

1800 512 348



If you feel alone because of coronavirus restrictions you can get help.

Call the Coronavirus Hotline



1800 675 398 then press 3



You will talk to a person from the Australian Red Cross who will help you find local support.

More information



For more information about restrictions

Go to our website.

coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-summer



For information about coronavirus

Call the Coronavirus Hotline.

1800 675 398

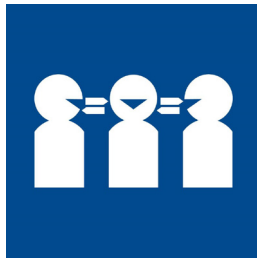
Press 0 if you need an interpreter.



If there is an emergency

Call Triple Zero.

000



If you need help with English

Contact the Telephone Interpreting Service.

131 450



If you need information in another language

Go to our website.

coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translated-information-about-coronavirus-covid-19



If you need help to speak or listen

Use the National Relay Service.

Website

nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay

Call 1300 555 727



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Give the relay officer the phone number you want to call.

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