

Costco will no longer require fully vaccinated customers to wear masks in stores, except in states that still have mask mandates

[Avery Hartmans](#) 3 hours ago

Costco announced that it will no longer require fully vaccinated customers to wear face masks.

However, the policy change only applies to locations without state or local mask mandates.

All customers will still be required to wear a mask in Costco's healthcare departments.

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Costco announced on Friday that it will no longer require masks for vaccinated customers in some states.

The company posted an [updated mask policy](#) on its website following [Thursday's announcement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) that fully vaccinated people can stop wearing masks both outdoor and indoors, with some exceptions.

Costco said that in locations with no state or local mask requirements, customers who are fully vaccinated can enter the store without a face mask or shield. The retailer said it will not ask for proof of vaccination.

At stores in areas that still have state or local mask mandates, Costco said it will continue to require customers to wear a mask, with the exception of children under the age of 2.

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At all locations, face coverings will still be required in the Pharmacy, Optical, and Hearing Aid departments, per CDC guidance.

"Costco continues to recommend that all members and guests, especially those who are at higher risk, wear a mask or shield," the company said.

Costco [tightened its policy around face coverings](#) last November amid a surge in COVID cases nationwide. The company announced at the time that all shoppers, even those with medical conditions, would be required to cover their faces in its stores. When Costco instituted its mask policy in May 2020, it initially said people with conditions that prevented them from wearing a mask could go without a face covering. However, anti-maskers often used medical conditions as an excuse to go without face coverings in public places.