

Free Home COVID Test Kits

Free rapid Covid tests are now available for anyone without symptoms

Everyone in Manchester is encouraged to take free rapid tests for COVID-19 twice a week – every 3 or 4 days apart. Regular testing is an important part of the easing of restrictions and getting life back to normal.

With 1 in 3 people with coronavirus showing no symptoms and potentially spreading it without knowing, twice-weekly rapid testing helps us to find these cases and prevent the spread of infection.

Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Please remember you still need to be tested even if you have had your COVID-19 vaccination.

Rapid testing using lateral flow devices (LFD)

The rapid tests (called lateral flow devices) involve swabs to the back of the nose and throat and can

give a result within half an hour because they do not need to be sent off to a lab for analysis.

Tests can be carried out at home and kits can be collected from our local testing sites and participating pharmacies. If this isn't possible, home test kits can be ordered online.

You can get a twice-weekly test:

- at a testing site.
- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site or participating pharmacy (<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>)
- by collecting a home test kit from local libraries in Gorton, Longsight, Didsbury, Chorlton, Forum, Withington, North City, Avenue, Newton Heath, and Beswick

Order by phone

If you cannot order online, call 119.

Lines are open 7 am to 11 pm and calls are free.