

How to book a COVID-19 test

If you are displaying any of these symptoms:

- A new continuous cough; a high temperature; a loss or change of taste or smell,

You are able to book a Coronavirus test, this needs to be done within the first 5 days of displaying symptoms.

You can do this by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers> and completing the following steps:

When to apply for a test

Apply within the first 3 days of having symptoms. The test is best taken within 5 days of symptoms starting.

You might not get a test if you apply - it depends how many tests are available in your area.

[Start now >](#)

How do you want to get the coronavirus test?

If your preferred type of test is not available, try again later.

At a drive-through test site

[What going to a drive-through test site involves](#)

Select your country

- England **AVAILABLE**
- Scotland **AVAILABLE**
- Wales **AVAILABLE**
- Northern Ireland **AVAILABLE**

or

At home

[What testing yourself at home involves](#)

- Ask for a home test kit **AVAILABLE**

[Continue](#)

Locations of drive-through tests in Manchester:

- Manchester Airport
- Etihad Stadium

Visiting a drive-through test site: what you need to know

You or someone you live with must have a car or small van to get to a drive-through test site. Someone you live with can drive if you're too ill to drive yourself. Do not get a taxi.

You can bring up to 3 other people you live with to be tested.

An assistant may do the swab test for you or you may have to do it yourself. Staff at the site will tell you when you get there.

To request a visit to a test site, you will need to tell us your:

- name
- mobile phone number

You'll receive a text message once you have requested a visit. It will include a verification code to book your test.

[Continue](#)

Important note:


You cannot just turn up to the test centres.

You or someone in the household must drive to the test centre, you cannot go on foot or get a taxi.

What's your name?

First name

Last name

I'm not a robot  reCAPTCHA
[Privacy](#) [Terms](#)

► [Why are we asking for this?](#)

Continue

Once you have received a text message with an activation code, you should visit this website to book your appointment <https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/appointment> and complete the steps.

What's your invitation code?

Enter your invitation code

This is the 16 digit code you received in the text message we sent you.

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Continue

What is the test

The test is an 'antigen test'. It tests if you currently have coronavirus. It involves taking a swab of the inside of your nose and the back of your throat, using a long cotton bud.

While you wait for your results, you (and anyone you live with) must continue to self-isolate. Read [NHS advice about how long to self-isolate](#).

! You need to get the test done in the first 5 days of having symptoms. Do not delay: book your appointment now.

What happens at the test site

You can use a car or a small van to drive to the test site (motorcycles are not suitable).

You'll stay in your vehicle during your visit.

You'll receive your test results by text message. Most people get their results within 48 hours, but it could take up to 5 days.

What happens next

You'll receive a text message when it's time to book your test appointment. The text will usually arrive in a few moments, but may take longer at busy times.

Appointments can get quickly booked up. If you do not receive a text message from us today, it means we were unable to offer you a slot. You'll need to re-register tomorrow.



We are experiencing a high demand for tests. It may take longer to get an appointment.

