Twenty-Eighth Corona Ordinance for Bremen and Bremerhaven

valid from 2 August 2021 until 30 August 2021

Summary in Simple Language¹

Part 1
Events and Facilities of Social Life
(§ 1 to § 8)

1. The distance from other people

The general rule
In the public space, a distance of at least 1.5 metres must be maintained as far as possible.

The exceptions
In these cases, no distance needs to be maintained:

- Between family members (including patchwork families as well as grandparents and grandchildren)
- Between people who live together (for instance in a flat-sharing community)
- Couples that do not live together are regarded as one household
- If one household meets with another household. The number of people does not matter, provided they are members of one of the two households. Children up to 14 years of age do not count. Persons accompanying people with disabilities or people dependent on assistance are not counted either. Persons who are completely vaccinated or persons who were ill with corona and are healthy again are not counted either.

¹ The complete and legally binding ordinance is the “Twenty-Eighth Ordinance on Protection against New Infections with Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2” of 22 July 2021.
✓ Or a maximum of 10 people from no more than 10 households are allowed to meet. In this event, the following also applies: Children up to 14 years of age are not counted. Persons accompanying people with disabilities or people dependent on assistance are not counted either. People who are completely vaccinated or people who have been ill with corona and are healthy again are not counted either.
✓ In groups of children provided they are 14 years old at the most.
✓ During sports
✓ During childcare in children’s day care and day nursing facilities
✓ If instruction and supervision at schools takes place in small, fixed groups (so-called “cohort principle”)
✓ During education, further education and advanced training if the cohort principle is observed
✓ When you attend classes or take exams at a university or college. In this case there must be a hygiene concept
✓ During services where a distance of 1.5 meters from other people cannot be maintained, provided that other hygiene measures are taken, for example if a mask is worn

2. The wearing of masks

The general rule
A medical face mask must be worn in certain places in Bremen:
In buses, trams and trains,
At stations and stops,
At the train station
At the airport
In shops
In other publicly accessible rooms and buildings if there is no appropriate hygiene concept.

The following facilities are excluded:
✓ Courts
✓ Prisons
✓ Law enforcement facilities

The following masks qualify as medical masks:
✓ Surgical masks
✓ „FFP2“ masks


✓ „KN95/N95“ masks  
X Respirator masks with an exhalation valve are prohibited.  
✓ Children and teenagers up to the age of 15 may continue to wear a cloth mask.

The exceptions

These people do not have to wear masks even in buildings:
✓ Children under 6 years of age  
✓ People who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as people accompanying such persons and communicating with such persons  
✓ In case of disability, pregnancy or health issues

3. Tests, exceptions for vaccinated persons and persons who have recovered after corona

The general rule

If you have a job and the employer offers you coronavirus testing, you must accept this testing opportunity.

If you have to show a negative corona test, for instance in a restaurant or at an event:  
✓ You can go to a testing centre. The test there is free of charge and may be 24 hours old at the most.  
✓ You may also take a self-test. This happens directly at the entrance. In this event, however, a person MUST be present at the entrance. However, many events require a test result from a test centre.  
✓ You may show the test on paper or in digital form.  
✓ And it can be in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish language.

The following have the same status as a negative test:  
✓ If you are completely vaccinated and 15 days have elapsed since the vaccination  
✓ Or if you were ill with corona and the illness is no more than half a year ago

You must show the vaccination certificate, or prove through a certificate on the PCR test or the quarantine that you were ill. Children under 14 years of age do not have to show a negative test.

4. Conditions for facilities and establishments
The general rule

All facilities/establishments and shops are allowed to open. They have to comply with conditions:

✔ The distance regulations must be observed.
✔ There must be a protection concept.
✔ In closed rooms, all persons present must enter their names in a list of names, so that they can be identified if a sick person got close to them.
  - This does not apply to shops. There, a medical mask must be worn.
  - This does not apply either to education, further education and advanced training institutions if everybody learning there got registered with their names and with their telephone numbers or e-mail addresses.

During services for instance at a nail studio or at the hairdresser, hygiene measures must be used so that you do not become infected.

5. Concepts for protection and hygiene

The general rule

Concepts for protection and hygiene must be precise and meaningful. When drawing up the concept, the person responsible must take the following into account:

✔ The concept describes how the distance can be maintained.
✔ The concept describes the measures for hygiene, for instance corona tests or the obligation to wear medical face masks.
✔ The concept describes how sufficient ventilation can be provided in closed rooms.
✔ In companies, the concept must include information on occupational health and safety.
✔ On request of the authority, the responsible person shall submit the concept.

6. List of names and contact details

The general rule

The persons responsible and facilities / establishments compiling the list of names must comply with the following:
 ✓ The list contains names and contact details (telephone number or e-mail) and the time of arrival and departure.
 ✓ You may also provide the information in digital form, for instance with an app on your mobile phone; the corona warning app is not permitted however for this purpose.
 ✓ Anybody providing false information must pay a fine.
 ✓ The person responsible must store the data in such a way that other people cannot look into it, and store the data for four weeks and then delete them.
 ✓ People are only allowed to participate if they enter the data.
 ✓ The public health department may look into the data if there is a suspected corona case.

7. Events

The general rule

Events may take place with a maximum of 25,000 people.

✓ All persons must keep a distance of 1.5 meters if they do not come under the exceptions mentioned in Item 1.
✓ There must be a concept for protection and hygiene.
✓ All people attending the event must provide their names and telephone numbers or e-mail addresses as well as their times of arrival and departure.

If an event is attended by more than 5,000 people, the local police department must approve the event. The public health department must also agree with the event.

✓ All people attending the event must show a negative test.

Trade fairs and conventions do not need to be approved.

If an event is held indoors with more than 500 people, you must notify the local police department of the event at least two days in advance. However, you will not get an extra permit. A maximum of 5,000 people may be present at the same time, and the person in charge must provide good ventilation through a technical device.

If an event is held outdoors with more than 1,000 people, the event must be registered at least two days in advance with the local police department. However, you will not get an extra permit. A maximum of 5,000 people may be present at the same time.
If an event is held outdoors with no more than 250 people at a time, or indoors with no more than 150 people at a time, you do not have to keep a distance.

But:
- Access to the event must be controlled
- All persons attending the event must enter their names and their telephone numbers or e-mail addresses in a list
- All persons attending the event must show a current negative corona test

If there is mandatory seating at events, you only have to keep a distance of 1 metre. For indoor events, the person in charge must provide enough fresh air in the room through a technical device.

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**Part 2**

**Hospitals, Nursing Care Establishments, Integration Facilities and Similar Institutions**

**8. Hospitals and outpatient supply centres**

Hospitals and outpatient supply centres must have a concept for protection and hygiene. The process must comply with the recommendations of the Robert-Koch-Institute. The hospital operator must make sure that the concept is observed.

The operator may stipulate that visitors are only allowed to come if they have a negative test, or if they are vaccinated or if they have recovered from corona.

**9. Nursing Care Establishments and Integration Facilities**

These facilities must make sure that no coronavirus infection enters the facility as far as possible. They must comply with the regulations and proposals of the Robert-Koch-Institute.

Here, it is allowed already now to visit residents, provided there is a visiting concept:
- Full-time inpatient nursing facilities pursuant to § 71 (2) of Book Eleven of the German Social Security Code
- Nursing and care facilities as defined in § 9 of the Bremen Housing and Nursing Care Act,
- Provider-managed residential communities as defined in § 8 (3) of the Bremen Housing and Nursing Care Act, and
- Day care facilities and short-term care facilities as defined in § 5(2) nos. 2 and 4 of the Bremen Housing and Nursing Care Act;
Facilities for people with disabilities within the meaning of § 2 (1) of Book Nine of the German Social Security Code, in which integration assistance services are provided day and night

But: At the aforementioned facilities, visiting is only permitted subject to the following conditions:

- Visitors must be able to show a negative corona test (no self-test). The test must not be older than 24 hours.
- Vaccinated and recovered persons do not need test evidence anymore for the visit
- Facility records the visit and stores the data for 4 weeks (name, times, contact details).
- Facility explains the hygiene concept to visitors.

The facilities must offer their residents a corona test once a week.
Anybody working at such a facility must check himself/herself before starting to work as to whether he/she is healthy. If you feel sick, you have to notify the employer immediately.

10. Workshops for people with disabilities

The general rule

Care / supervision and meetings are allowed in such facilities, but:

- Concept for protection and hygiene
- The persons concerned must agree with the supervision and care

11. Daytime foster groups and foster groups for people with disabilities

The general rule

These facilities may also open for normal care and supervision. Protection and hygiene measures must comply with the guidelines of the public health departments.

12. Facilities for joint accommodation and outpatient care

The general rule

These facilities may also open, but:
The distance of 1.5 metres must be observed. If this is impossible, the facility must reduce the number of accommodated persons.
13. Concepts for coronavirus testing in facilities and institutions

The general rule

The following facilities and institutions must draw up their own concept governing in which manner and how many people should be tested in accordance with the coronavirus test regulation:

- Hospitals,
- Outpatient surgery facilities,
- Prevention or rehabilitation facilities, even if they do not provide medical care comparable to that provided by hospitals,
- Dialysis facilities,
- Day clinics,
- Medical practices,
- Dental practices,
- Practices of other human healthcare professions.

The testing concept must comply with the Coronavirus Test Regulation. The respective facilities must be able to present the testing concept to the public authorities.

- Persons working in these facilities must undergo corona testing twice a week. Anyone who is vaccinated or has recovered will only have to take a test once a week.
- It must be an antigen test.
- The supporting organisation of the institution must document the result.
- If a test is positive, the supporting organisation of the institution must report the result to the public health department.
- If a test is positive, or if someone refuses to take a test, this person will no longer be allowed to enter the facility or institution.

The exceptions

If at least 80 percent of the residents in a nursing care facility are completely vaccinated or have recovered from a corona illness, the public health department may allow relaxations.

If a person cannot be vaccinated for health reasons, he or she is counted among the vaccinated or recovered persons.
Part 3
Children’s Day Care Centres, Schools, Early Assistance and Other Educational Institutions

15. Children’s day care centres (children’s day care facilities, children’s day nursing facilities)

The general rule

These facilities may also open for normal care and supervision, but:

- Concept for protection and hygiene
- Care and supervision take place preferably in fixed, unchanged groups (according to the so-called “cohort principle”)
- List of names of the supervised children must be kept on a daily basis
- All registered children will be looked after or supervised as long as this proves possible
- Priority is given to particularly vulnerable children and cases of hardship if not all the children can be looked after / supervised
- Details are regulated by the Senator for Children and Education
- Outings (for example to playgrounds) are allowed, but according to the cohort principle and with distance and a hygiene concept
- There are regulations as to when mothers and fathers are allowed to enter the institution
- Services offered by third parties are permitted, but in separate rooms (also according to the so-called “cohort principle”). In the event of cooperation between schools and children’s day care centres, separate rooms are not required.
- At the facilities, all persons over the age of 10 must wear a medical mask.
  - X Not in outdoor areas if the distance is maintained
  - X Not in groups with children under three years of age

16. Schools

The general rule

Public and private schools are also allowed to open like normal.

But:
Concept for protection and hygiene: Instruction takes place in small, fixed, unchanged groups (according to the so-called "cohort principle")

Children from children’s day care centres may visit elementary schools to get to know the school

Suitable masks must also be worn in school buildings:
- In grades 5-9, a simple mouth-and-nose cover (textile mask) shall be sufficient
- From grade 10 or 16 years of age onwards, medical face masks must be worn

You must not wear a mask however:
- In canteens
- In classrooms
- In speciality rooms
- During after-school care
- Employees at schools in their offices or workrooms and during lessons
- Elementary school children do not have to wear a mask.

If someone wants to enter the school premises, this person must be able to present a negative corona test. Or another certificate from a doctor proving that he/she is not infected. The test or certificate must not be older than 3 days.

You may enter the school premises without a negative test if you undergo a test immediately at the school. The test result must be negative. With this negative test result, you will be allowed to enter the school premises for three days.

You may also enter the school premises without a negative test if you take an exam.

You may also enter the school premises without a negative test if there is an important reason to do so and if you do not meet any pupils or students during the visit. For example, if you want to go to a gym on the premises. Or if you want to attend a parent-teacher meeting.

If children from the children’s day care centre are supposed to go to school soon, their educators may also enter the school premises without a negative test if the meeting takes place in the open air, or if they do not meet any other pupils/students while staying in the school buildings.

You may also enter the school premises with a negative test on the first day at school of one’s children or for a graduation ceremony.

Schools may limit classroom teaching if the protection concept requires so. In this event, care for children up to 6th grade should be made available if possible

Services offered by third parties are permitted, but in separate rooms

Outings (for example to museums or playgrounds) are allowed, but in small, fixed, unchanged groups ("cohort principle")

Further requirements in relation to classroom teaching and emergency care shall be regulated by the Bremen State Minister for Children and Education
If a person at a school is infected with Corona, the school will inform all pupils on whether they are contact persons. These are all pupils who belong to the same cohort. All pupils who are contact persons must be go into quarantine immediately. The quarantine lasts 14 days. If you are a contact person, a corona test free of charge can be arranged for you via the State Minister of Education. If the pupils are younger than 18 years, the school will also inform the parents.

The State Minister of Education may also allow exceptions and establish emergency attendance.

17. Training, further education and advanced training centres for the healthcare professions

The general rule

Training, further education and advanced training centres for the health care professions are allowed to open for teaching.

✓ There must be a protection and hygiene concept:
  o Students receive classroom teaching in small, fixed groups ("cohort principle").
✓ If someone wants to come to the school premises, this person must be able to show a negative corona test. Or other certification from a doctor proving that he/she is not infected. The test or certificate must not be older than 3 days.
✓ You may enter the school premises without a negative test if you do a test immediately in the school. The test result must be negative. With this negative test result, you may enter the school premises for three days.
✓ You may enter the school premises without a negative test if you take an exam.
✓ You must wear a medical mask in the buildings.
✓ Other details for training, further education and advanced training in the health care professions are resolved upon by the State Minister of Health.

18. Colleges and the State and University Library

If someone wants to enter the buildings of the Bremen colleges/universities, this person must be able to show a negative Corona test. Or another certificate from a doctor stating that you are not infected. The test or certificate must not be older than 3 days.

Without a negative test or a doctor's certificate, you are not allowed either to take exams.
Part 4
Domestic Quarantine

1. Who must go into quarantine?

The following people must go into quarantine:

✅ **Infected persons**
  - **Beginning:** Immediately after a positive test
  - **End:** At the earliest 14 days after the test and 48 hours without symptoms and OK from the doctor and a negative test result (no self-testing)

❌ People having a positive test result from an antigen test (rapid test) must go into quarantine for 14 days. If a subsequent PCR test produces a negative result, the person concerned does not have to stay in quarantine any longer.

❌ **Contact Persons**
  - **Beginning:** Immediately after the infected person tests positive
  - **End:** 14 days after the last contact with the infected person; if the contact person has a negative test result, he/she may end quarantine slightly earlier: following 10 days after the last contact with the infected person.
  - The quarantine period can be shortened if:
    - the contact took place within a cohort (e.g. school class)
    - at least ten days have elapsed since the contact
    - a negative test result has been obtained

❌ **However,** if the contact person is infected with a variant (British, South African or Brazilian), the quarantine shall last:
  - usually 21 days, and may be left at the earliest after the 14th day if a test confirms that there is no infection.

Anyone is a Contact Person if he or she:
  - was close to an infected person (at a distance of less than 1.5 metres) for at least 10 minutes without wearing a mouth-and-nose cover
  - or had very close contact with an infected person for a shorter period of time without wearing a mouth-and-nose cover
  - staid in a room together with an infected person for at least 10 minutes without sufficient ventilation being provided.

This regulation also applies if a mouth-and-nose cover or FFP2 mask was worn consistently and correctly.
Anyone else is also a Contact Person if he or she:

- was together with an infected person from the same cohort during 30 minutes or longer

Those who are in quarantine may stay in a garden, on a terrace or on a balcony if these places belong directly to the apartment.

**The exceptions**

Contact Persons do NOT have to go into quarantine if they

- are medical staff and wore protective equipment
- were already infected with corona before and have received at least one vaccination dose
- have been vaccinated twice, with 15 days having elapsed since the second vaccination

Despite corona, you may leave your home in these cases:

- In case of danger to life and health
- Further exceptions are possible (applications must be submitted to the public health department in Bremen or the Municipal Government in Bremerhaven).

**20. Obligations during quarantine**

**The general rule**

Persons in quarantine must comply with the following:

- Do not leave your apartment or institution / centre of accommodation without permission from the public health department
- Do not receive visitors
- Keep your distance from other people in the household
- Follow the hygiene rules: cough and sneeze properly, wash your hands regularly and thoroughly, avoid touching your face
- If possible: measure your body temperature in the mornings and evenings
- If possible: keep a diary on symptoms, body temperature, general activities and contacts – also for the previous days if possible
- Hold yourself ready for possibly necessary examinations such as X-Ray examinations, taking of blood samples or skin swabs
- The public health department may require persons concerned to appear at the public health department, or ask them questions in their apartment on their state of health
- If the person in quarantine is under 18 years of age, parents or guardians should help the child/young person to comply with the quarantine obligations.
21. Local measures and additional orders

The public authorities in Bremen and Bremerhaven are entitled to enact further rules and prohibitions to protect people better against infections with coronavirus.

If 35 people or more per 100,000 inhabitants become infected in Bremen or in Bremerhaven within 3 days, the local authorities shall enact additional rules and prohibitions to improve the protection of people from a coronavirus infection. The regulations and prohibitions are laid down in a so-called “General Decree”.

22. Administrative offences

Anyone who does not comply with the regulations must pay a fine. The amount of the fine may be up to € 25,000.

23. Restriction of fundamental rights

The Ordinance restricts these fundamental rights:
- Personal freedom,
- Religious freedom
- Freedom of assembly
- Freedom of movement
- Inviolability of the home.

24. Validity

This Ordinance applies from 2 August 2021 to 30 August 2021. The 27th Corona Ordinance is invalid from this time onwards.
Employers in these areas may exempt employees from domestic quarantine. In this event, the employer must provide a list of the persons exempted to the local police authorities and the public health departments:

1. Healthcare sector:
   - All employees who work in the healthcare sector including administrative personnel and cleaning staff. More detailed information can be found in the original ordinance.

2. Civil service:
   - Senatorial authorities of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen
   - Federal state parliament of Bremen (employees and MPs)
   - Audit Court of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen
   - Bremerhaven city council (members)
   - Municipal government of the City of Bremerhaven (members and employees)
   - Bremen public health department
   - Bremen public order office
   - Bremen civil registry office
   - Bremen immigration office
   - Bremen municipal services office (and associated offices)
   - Bremen and Bremerhaven police departments
   - Bremen and Bremerhaven fire brigades
   - Other authorities and organisations with security tasks of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen and the municipalities of Bremen and Bremerhaven, especially with regard to disaster control
   - Public prosecution authority of Bremen
   - General public prosecution authority of Bremen
   - Courts in the federal state of Bremen
   - Prison in the federal state of Bremen
   - Port authority of the Hanseatic City of Bremen (= function of public order office in the port district)
   - Food Safety, Animal Health and Veterinary Services Office of the federal state of Bremen
   - State examination office for chemistry, hygiene and veterinary medicine
   - Board of weights and measures in the federal state of Bremen
   - Trade supervisory authority of the federal state of Bremen
   - Job Centre, Federal Labour Agency
   - Road and Traffic Office
   - Social Services Office
   - Bremen Pension and Integration Office
   - Federal state pay office
   - Social insurance institutions, welfare benefit providers, organisations supporting students
   - Independent organisations assisting children and young people, refugees and the homeless, the elderly and disabled people, drug users and addicted persons
   - Staff ensuring emergency care at children’s day-care centres and schools
   - School personnel
   - Inpatient care facilities (such as educational assistance)
   - The Federal State Commissioner for Data Protection and the Freedom of Information
   - State Commissioner for Women/Bremen
   - Central Office for the Realization of Equal Rights for Women
   - Performa Nord
   - Corresponding institutions of other federal states and municipalities
   - Institutions whose activities are necessary for the maintenance of diplomatic and consular relations and for the functional capability of
## 3. Critical infrastructure:

| 1. | Public utilities and disposal companies (electricity, water, energy, waste): e.g. Hansewasser, Bremen Public Cleansing Service, SWB/Wesernetz |
| 2. | Transport and traffic |
| 3. | Bremen Dyke Association on the right bank of the river Weser |
| 4. | Bremen Dyke Association on the left bank of the river Weser |
| 5. | Nutrition: food industry, food trade, agriculture and horticulture (§ 4 BSI-KritisV), including supply and logistics |
| 6. | Information technology and telecommunications (§ 5 BSI-KritisV) |
| 7. | Finance and insurance industry: banks, stock exchanges, insurances, financial service providers (§ 7 BSI-KritisV) |
| 8. | Media and culture: broadcasting services (TV and radio), printed and electronic press, cultural heritage, symbolic buildings |
| 9. | bremenports GmbH & Co. KG |
| 10. | Pilot associations / pilot transfer operations at the port and on the river Weser |
| 11. | EUROGATE Technical Services in the seaport district |
| 12. | Fishing port operating company |
| 13. | Bremen Air Traffic Control Corporation |
| 14. | Bremerhaven Investment Promotion and Urban Development Corporation, WFB (Business Development Agency of Bremen), Bremen Trade Fair |
| 15. | Bremen Airport Corporation |
| 16. | Petrol stations |
| 17. | Undertakers |
| 18. | Bremen Environmental Enterprise |
| 19. | Bremen and Bremerhaven Real Estate Corporations |
| 20. | Inpatient care facilities (such as educational assistance). |
| 21. | Lawyers and attorneys, tax consultants, public accountants |
| 22. | Guardianship associations and legal guardians |
| 23. | Security firms |