

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Cinemas

Safe Management Measures

- 1) Q: Can cinema patrons sit together?

A: Patrons will be allowed to sit together based on the prevailing social gathering group size limit (without the 1-metre distancing requirement). Cinemas must ensure there is a 1-metre safe distancing between different groups of patrons.

- 2) Q: Can unvaccinated people watch movies in cinemas?

A: The expansion of Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) for malls and cinemas only permits entry to individuals with a cleared status¹.

- 3) Q: Can unvaccinated people enter cinemas to buy tickets/takeaway popcorn and other snacks and then leave after that? They aren't staying to watch movies.

A: No, only individuals with a cleared status may enter cinemas for any reason.

- 4) Q: Can unvaccinated children watch movies in cinemas then?

A: Yes, if they are 12 years and below (i.e. born in and after 2010).

- 5) Q: Can cinema operators do away with 1m safe distancing in halls?

A: Safe distancing is encouraged but will no longer be required between individuals and groups in all mask-on settings. **No F&B is allowed in mask-on settings.**

Safe distancing will continue to be required for all mask-off settings (e.g. where F&B is allowed in the hall).

- 6) Q: If the mall is doing checks, does the cinema in the mall still need to check the vaccination status of customers who are coming to watch a movie?

A: Yes, cinemas are liable to check the vaccination status of cinema patrons, even if the mall is checking at the mall entrance.

- 7) Q: Are patrons supposed to put on masks at all times during the movie? Can they eat during the movie?

¹ An individual is considered to have a cleared status if he/ she has been: a) fully vaccinated, i.e. has received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective and had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems, b) recovered from COVID-19 within the last 180 days after infection, or c) medically ineligible for COVID-19 vaccines, with valid proof.

A: Patrons must keep their masks on at all times, except when eating or drinking (if the prevailing SMMs allow for F&B consumption; otherwise, mask-on at all times). Patrons may don a face shield instead of a mask if they have valid proof of medical conditions that do not allow the wearing of masks. However, as premise occupiers, cinema operators could impose stricter entry conditions should they wish to deny face shield-wearing patrons in consideration of the concerns from other masked-up patrons.

- 8) Q: If the cinema is located in a shopping mall/building which has conducted temperature checks at its entrance, does this need to be repeated at the cinema entrance?

A: This is not required. However, patrons must check-in using an individual TraceTogether device at the cinema entrance.

- 9) Q: Are cinemas in shopping malls subject to the stipulated occupancy limit of malls?

A: All malls are to comply with the prevailing occupancy limits for shopping malls. While cinemas are not subject to such a limit, operators may wish to remind patrons to enter the mall early so as to avoid having to wait to enter the mall. There is no separate or special entry into the mall for cinema patrons – they must join the queue like every other mall visitor.

- 10) Q: Do cinema staff have to do Fast and Easy Testing (FET)?

A: Cinemas are no longer required to place their relevant F&B staff on the Fast and Easy Testing (FET) regime. Please refer to [this link](#) for more information.

- 11) What are the hygiene practices the cinemas are undertaking as part of the reopening?

A: Cinemas will cater additional time for cleaning of halls after every screening. There will be increased cleaning and disinfection of high touch point areas e.g. service counters, toilets, ticketing machines etc.

Ticketing, Promotions and Corporate Bookings

- 12) Q: Can cinema patrons buy tickets on-site?

A: Cinema patrons may buy tickets on-site. However, they are strongly encouraged to book their tickets online and in advance, to avoid queues at the cinemas. For on-site purchases, cashless or contactless payments are strongly encouraged.

- 13) Q: Are corporate bookings allowed?

A: Work-related events at third-party venues may be allowed, subject to any additional premise owners' safe management policies. Workplaces have to comply with the latest [MOM Advisory on Requirements for Safe Management Measures](#) at the workplace.

For permitted enterprises that wish to organise other types of events, these would be subject to the [COVID-19 \(Temporary Measures\) \(Control Order\) Regulations](#), in particular Regulations 10 and 13.

Religious services may be held at cinema premises, subject to prevailing SMMs for such services and adherence to [MCCY's prevailing advisory](#) for religious organisations and services. In addition, the prevailing SMMs for cinemas will apply.

For private events, individuals holding private gatherings e.g. birthday parties will have to comply with the restrictions in [Regulation 6 of the Control Order](#). The prevailing limit for social gatherings would generally apply with exceptions as stated in Regulation 6.

Data Collection

14) Q: Can operators collect personal data in addition to the deployment of TraceTogether/SafeEntry?

A: Cinema operators are no longer required to collect personal data.

Others

15) Q: What are the guidelines for outdoor movie screenings?

A: Outdoor movie screenings are permitted **from 15 March 2022**, subject to the [mandatory SMMs for cinemas](#).

All cinemas and venues screening films should comply with the [Mandatory Safe Management Measures for Cinemas](#).
