

CAPITALISM IS A VIRUS

Art is an essential part of spreading the message of democratic socialism. As our systems and leaders are failing us, we hope these tools will help you spread class consciousness and share your determination to make a better world.

But how can we keep making art together during the COVID-19 pandemic?

If you're reading this guide you've already taken the first step. You saw some radical art stapled up in your community or on your newsfeed, got curious and visited this site. Now, it's time to get real.

Step 1. Get real.

Capitalism is a virus driven by greed and exploitation. Capitalism did not create the coronavirus, but capitalism has hollowed out our ability to collectively respond to crisis. Healthcare workers struggle to protect themselves and us. Farmers, drivers, cashiers and cooks, and other low wage workers put themselves at the most risk, but are paid the least. Our government wants to send the working class back to work during a pandemic which could kill millions! During this time, we must organize our communities and focus our rage on the capitalist class which exposes our most vulnerable, exploits our labor, and profits from our sickness.

The time is now to blanket our communities in political art that inspires working class solidarity, teaches policy demands, and shares democratic socialist values. If we unite in this strange time, we can build a just and beautiful future together. Now, go forth and spread the word!

Step 2. Stay Safe.

- * COVID-19 [spreads mostly through](#) face touching or droplets from coughs or sneezes.
- * Wear a mask if you have one. They are hard to come by but you can [make your own](#).
- * Don't touch the mask after you put it on, and wash it or dispose after.
- * Act as if you may be infected and don't want to spread COVID-19.
- * Don't go out if you're coughing or have a fever!
- * Maintain social distance.
- * Cover coughs or sneezes.
- * Wash hands before and after going out.
- * Sterilize your equipment before and after going out.
- * COVID-19 can live for [up to 24 hours on cardboard](#). Handling paper is thought to be low risk of transmission, but still exercise care.

Step 3. Acquire Supplies

- * Heavy-duty staple gun.
- * T50 staples, 3/8 or 1/2 inch leg length.
- * Printer, the cheapest and most effective is a black & white laserjet.
- * 8.5 x 11 printer paper. The brighter the color the better, some people use astrobrights.

Step 4. Print materials.

- * Print materials available at www.capitalismisavirus.org
- * Always print with setting "Fit to Page". If setting is unavailable, print at 95% scale. If you print at full size or 100%, edges of the art will be cropped.
- * Files are available in multi-page PDF collections, sorted by topic and posting locale.

Step 5. Staple your neighborhood.

Installation

- * Place posters in sets of two, with slogan sheets on top of or next to icon sheets.
- * Staple to wooden poles, tape to metal poles, or wheatpaste to walls, get creative!
- * Place posters around essential locations like grocery stores, pharmacies, healthcare facilities, and government offices. Parks, and other areas with high foot traffic are also ideal.
- * Staple all four corners of both sheets.
- * Try to find a flat surface on the pole, free of bolts or nails.
- * Do not staple to trees.
- * Be mindful of your community, don't post over upcoming events, small businesses, or other flyering projects.

Permissibility

- * The permissibility of posting flyers to telephone poles varies depending on municipality. *If 'busted' by an authority figure, the best story is this: You thought this was legal and you are acting alone. You found the website, printed posters out, and decided to post around.*
- * Do not take any action which would put you into conflict with a worker.
- * Avoid interactions with police officers, municipal workers, or any other authority figure. Look in all directions before posting.
- * If going at daytime, you will look less suspicious but will obviously be more visible. If going at nighttime, there will be lower traffic but you will look more suspicious. Weigh these pros/cons.
- * Get started on low traffic neighborhood streets.