



Sewing Patterns – Level 1

Drawstring Back Pack

Skills learned during this project:

Selecting Fabric
Cutting Fabric on grain
Sewing a straight seam
Seam Finishes
Pressing

Making a Casing
Marking Fabric
Patch Pocket
Top Stitching

Discovery:

The following techniques will help you achieve a high quality product:

Select a light weight fabric for your back pack. Purchase $\frac{1}{2}$ yard.

Wash fabric before you cut out any pieces

Cut out all pieces of fabric. (2 – 16x20" rectangles on folded fabric. Open fabric to one single piece and cut one 8" x 9" pocket, and 2 strap pieces that are 2" x 30")

Use a marking pen to mark opening on side seam. Measure down 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " on each side seam and make a dot. Measure down again 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and make another dot.

Thread your machine with matching thread.

If desired, put a double top stitching line on pocket and straps.

Follow instructions on guide sheet to make your back pack.

Exhibit Tips:

Select appropriate fabric for this project

Cut the fabric out on grain

Use matching thread

Carefully measure while turning the pocket edges and pressing

Press seam allowances open after stitching

Put a zigzag stitch on the edge of the seam allowance

Trim all loose threads off my project

My finished project is clean and pressed

Level 1 - Drawstring Back Pack Instructions

Materials Needed:

3/4 yard light weight fabric

Matching thread

Step 1: Cut fabric as shown on the right. Cut 2 bag pieces and one pocket piece. Pocket piece is 8" x 9"

Step 2: Sew pocket. Turn under all 4 edges of pocket 1/2 inch. Press with iron. Turn top edge (shorter edge) down another 1 inch and sew. Pin wrong side of pocket to center of one bag piece (right side). Sew both sides and bottom of pocket close to the edge. May reinforce top corners of pocket by sewing small triangles in both corners.

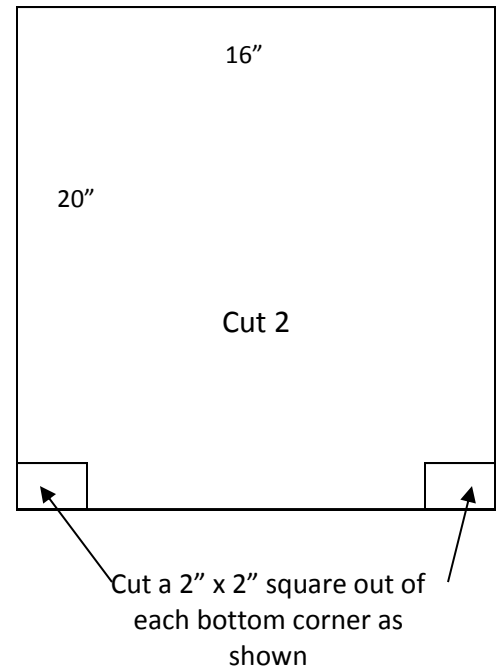
Step 3: Sew bag: Pin bag pieces, right sides together. Stitch sides. Leave a 1" opening in each side seam between 1 1/2" and 2 1/2" from the top. Zigzag edges of seam allowance to finish. Press seam open.

Step 4: Sew across bottom edge. Zigzag seam allowance and press open.

Step 5: Finish upper edge with a zigzag stitch or serge.

Step 6: Make a casing around the top of the bag. Turn down 1 1/2" on upper edge and stitch 1 1/4" from fold. The opening in the side seam allowance should be on the outside of the bag. Turn right sides out.

Step 7: Make 2 fabric straps (finished size of straps are 30" x 3/4 ") Cut two strips of material (30" x 2") Fold material in half lengthwise (right sides together) and sew a 1/4" seam around raw edges leaving one end open and then turn right side out. Top stitch strap if desired.



Step 8: Insert fabric strap or cording through opening in casing on one side of bag. Thread strap through entire casing and again around back and out through opposite opening so ends are equal in length. Insert other fabric strap beginning at the opposite opening in casing.

Step 9: Pull straps to close bag and try on. Position straps comfortable over shoulders and pin ends to lower corners of bag, centering over seam at desired length. Trim extra strap from each side.

Step 10: Open bag and adjust straps as necessary (so they are equal length on both sides)

Step 11 Baste straps in place

Step 12: Fold corners right sides together matching seams. Stitch on a 5/8" seam. Serge or seam finish edge.