

DRAWSTRING BAG

EASY CRAFT

YOU WILL NEED

- 2 x fat quarters of cotton material (approx. 45 x 55cm each), or a rectangle of fabric double the size you want, plus a 1.5cm seam allowance on all sides
- 2 x lengths of 1.5cm wide ribbon (or cord) that are 20cm longer than twice the width of your fabric
- Pinking scissors (zig-zag blades)
- Sewing machine (optional) and thread



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Neaten all sides of your fabric with pinking scissors to prevent fraying.
2. Allow 1.5cm for all seams, unless otherwise stated.
3. Sew the two fat quarter pieces together to make a seam at the bottom of your bag, and fold in half with the right-sides together (or fold your fabric in half if using a rectangular piece of fabric). Pin the sides together.
4. Measure 4cm down from the top of each side and place a pin on each side to mark this.
5. Leaving a gap of 1.5cm, place another pin on each side.
6. Sew up both sides with a short running stitch, leaving a gap between the pins (you can also finish each side edge with a zig-zag or overlock stitch, if preferred).
7. Optional: To make a gusset (boxed corners), pull the centre of each piece of fabric outwards, so that the seams are in the middle. Flatten each side seam, so that each bottom corner forms a triangle in front of you pointing downwards. Sew a line across each corner 5cm up from the point, then cut off each corner 1.5cm below the stitch line.
8. Turn over 1.5cm at the top of your bag and sew a seam all the way around. Note: the top will now be 2.5cm from the holes (drawstring gaps) you made earlier on each side.
9. Turn the hemmed top edge over so that the drawstring holes are central to the fold on each side. What was the top seam will now be below the holes.
10. Stitch the fold in place all the way around the bottom, then stitch a further line all the way around above the drawstring holes. This will create a channel of two parallel lines that will keep your ribbons/cords in place.
11. Turn your bag right-side-out
12. Using a safety pin on the end of 1 piece of your ribbon/cord, insert it into one of the side holes and feed it all the way around the channel until it comes out the same hole. Tie the ends together and snip off any excess with pinking scissors, or seal the ends with a lighter or fabric sealant/glue). Repeat this step with your other piece of ribbon/cord feeding it through the hole on the other side.
13. Pull the drawstrings outwards to close!

Note: Drawstring bags are incredibly versatile. Use for toys, travel items, laundry, to store craft materials, etc., or as an alternative to gift wrapping, as a fun and reusable solution!

Free your Flow