

# Simple Sewing Projects

16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners



ALLFREESEWING 

## ***Simple Sewing Projects: 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners***

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## Letter from the Editors

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Hi Sewists,

Those who love to sew practice the craft because it provides a wonderful, creative outlet. However, there are other reasons to create with your needle and thread, machine, or serger. A time-tested skill, sewing also allows eco- and budget-friendly alternatives to streamlined clothing, décor, or accessories one might find in stores. [AllFreeSewing](#) celebrates the ideal craft every day with experienced sewists who love the technique as well as newcomers. *Simple Sewing Projects: 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners* offers stress-free tutorials for the novice sewist. From upcycled totes to appliquéd tops, these simple sewing projects will provide the perfect introduction for the eager student. This collection of easy sewing projects for beginners allows any inexperienced crafter to read through and understand the stitching process at their own pace. Whether one uses these tutorials to practice their own skill or passes it forward to an aspiring artist, *Simple Sewing Projects: 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners* will surely inspire creative sewing ventures.

Happy Sewing!

You can find additional beginner sewing projects and more at [www.AllFreeSewing.com](http://www.AllFreeSewing.com).

Our eBooks, like all our sewing projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our sewing community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our [free e-mail newsletter](#).

Happy Sewing,

*The Editors of AllFreeSewing*

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## Simple Sewing Projects: 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners

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## Big Books Library Bag

By: [Ros from Sew Delicious](#)

Learning how to sew a tote happens to be a fantastic beginner's sewing project. The basic design resonates with most beginner sewist's comfort levels and the final product is extremely useful. This Big Books Library Bag will undoubtedly become a favorite go-to tote once you're finished. Not only is it easy to make, its whimsical saying never fails to put a smile on the owner's face.



### Materials:

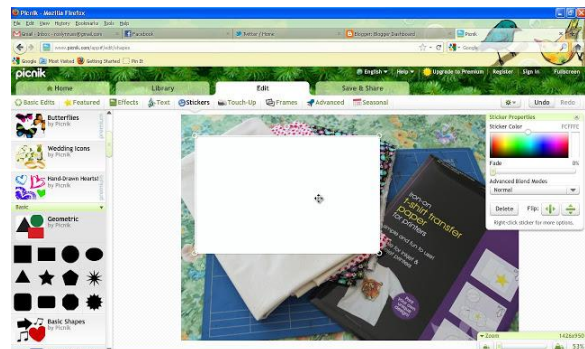
- ½ meter/yard of calico or other solid fabric
- ½ meter/yard of fabric for lining
- 1 meter of cotton ribbon, other ribbon or calico Strips for shoulder straps
- Machine, Thread, Cutting Tools, etc.
- T-Shirt Transfer Paper
- Iron and Ironing Board
- Computer and Printer



### Directions:

1. First you need to create the image or slogan you want on your bag. You can use Picnik to create an image then using Microsoft Word to resize the image and print, or just simply using Microsoft Word.

2. First, Picnik - unfortunately there is not an option to start with a blank image, so you can just upload any picture. Have a look along the tabs above your image and choose 'stickers'. Down the stickers list you will see 'Geometric'. Choose a rectangle and resize it to cover your existing image.

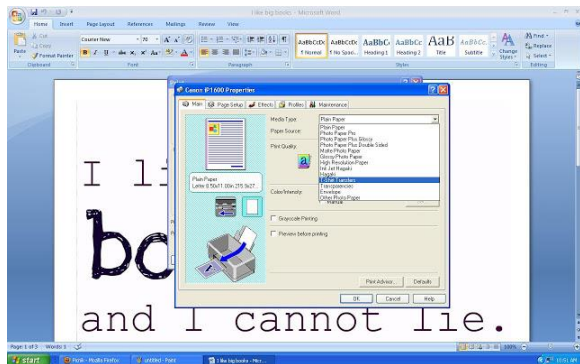


3. Once you have done that, create your image or slogan. Use the 'text' tab and play around with different fonts and layouts until you're happy.



4. Once you are happy with your image, go to the main tabs above and click 'save and share'. Open Microsoft Word or other word processing program, and open a new page. Choose to insert a picture and open your recently created Picnik image. Resize it on the page to how big you require it to be and double-check it using Print Preview.

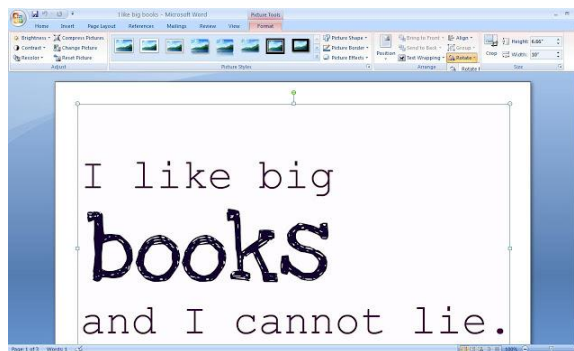
5. This part depends on your printer. Go to Print and choose Properties. In the Media Type box, scroll down and find the T-Shirt transfer paper option. Select it.



6. Using this option, my computer automatically flips the image. If you have text in your image it must be flipped, so when you iron it on to your fabric it will come out the right way.

\*Important: Do a test print using plain paper. If it reverses your image, you are ready to print onto your t-shirt transfer paper. Just double check your settings in properties again before you hit the print button.

7. If your computer does not automatically flip your image, you can do it yourself. Click on your image, and in the above tabs choose Picture Tools. Choose Rotate, then choose Flip Horizontal. (You can see the picture tools in the screen grab below.)



8. To print, go to Properties and choose the highest quality printing option you can. Again, do a test run with plain paper - you don't want to waste that expensive transfer paper!

9. If you are choosing to just create a page in your word processor to print, you will have to make sure your printer had the t-shirt transfer option available, because you cannot flip your basic text in the same way as an image.

10. Once printed you should end up with this:



11. Now onto the sewing - cut two pieces of outer fabric (this example is calico) to 35 cm wide (14") x 42cm long (16"). Do the same with your lining pieces.



12. Trim your transfer to make it easier to iron on.



13. Iron your fabrics. Following the instructions on the packet, position and iron your transfer onto your outer fabric.



14. When you have finished ironing it, give it another quick iron, just to be sure. Once it has cooled down, peel the backing paper off your transfer and you should have your slogan or image nicely adhered to your fabric.

Place both of the fabric's right sides together.



15. Sew your exterior fabric around three sides with a 1 cm seam allowance. Clip corners and trim seams.



16. With the lining pieces, sew down the sides, but along the bottom leave a 10 cm (4") gap along the bottom. (The floral print makes my pins hard to see, but if you look closely you can see the pins marking the gap.)



17. Place the exterior bag inside the lining so that the right sides are together.



18. Now add some shoulder straps. You can use any kind of wide ribbon, or make your own. Simply cut some strips off your exterior fabric, fold in half, sew, turn inside-out, and top-stitch.

Pin your straps inside like this:



19. Sew the whole way around the top of your bag. Reverse over your straps for extra

strength.

Use the gap in the lining to pull your bag through to the right way out.



20. With the gap in the lining, pinch the raw edges under to line up with the existing seam.



21. Sew the gap shut, stitching close to the edge.



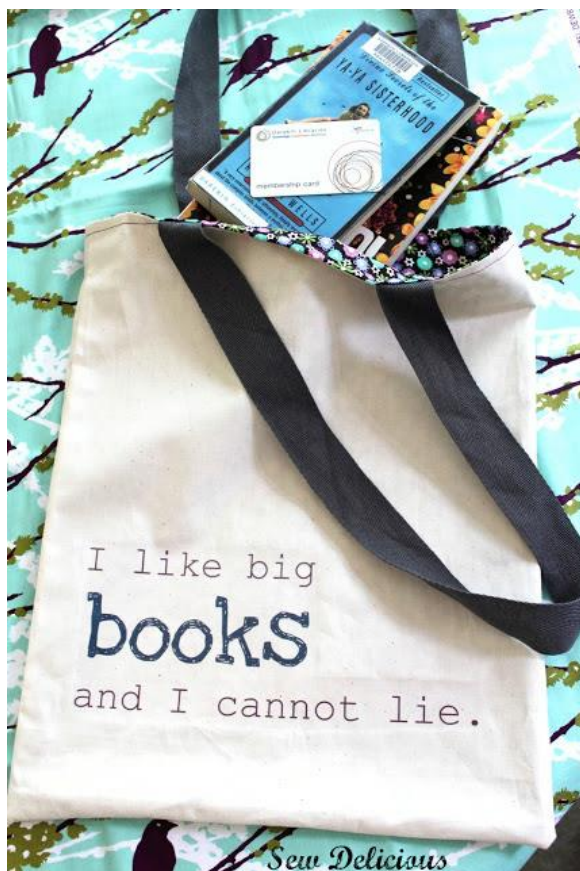


22. Push your lining into your bag. You're almost finished. Use your iron to press around the top of your bag.



23. And finally top-stitch around the top of your bag.

You are finished!



## Reversible Library Tote

By: [Jane from Maiden Jane](#)

One of the perks of sewing your own pieces is that you can maximize their functionality. This Reversible Library Tote essentially gives you two bags in one, thanks to its reversible designs. Prepare to learn how to apply interfacing, make a fabric tube, and top-stitch from these detailed instructions. Plus, there's no need to stress over which fabric to feature in your sewing project because this pattern lets you have both.



### Materials:

- ½ Yard canvas fabric, 45" wide
- ½ Yard of coordinating canvas fabric for lining, 45" wide
- 2/3 Yard Interfacing
- Tube Turning Tool
- Thread

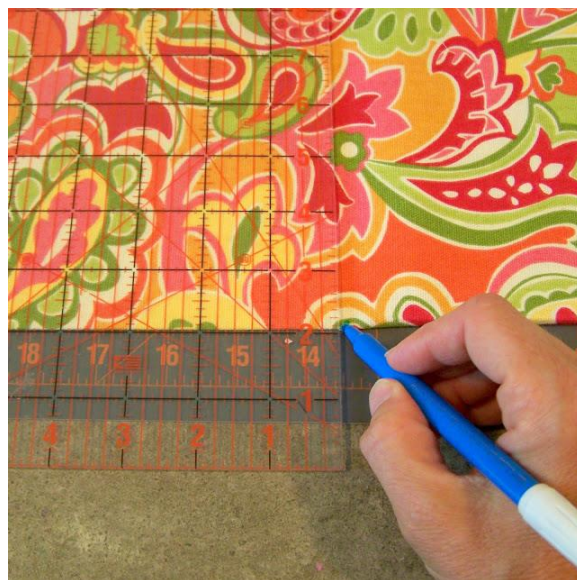
### Directions:

\* Use 1/4" seam allowance.

1. Cut Fabric: Fold fabric so that the selvages meet at the top.



2. Mark the fabric at 13 ½ inches wide.



3. Mark the fabric 16 inches from the fold. Connect marks to create a rectangle and cut out the fabric.



4. Use this folded fabric piece as your pattern for the contrasting lining piece and cut. You should now have two rectangles, each 13 ½" x 32".



Tip: If you plan to make a lot of these bags, make a simple pattern using pattern fabric (as shown in this photo), wax paper, or freezer paper.



5. Cut two rectangles for the handles: each 3 ¾" X width of fabric (in most cases 22 ½").

6. Interface the handles. This provides stability for the handles so that they don't crinkle up too easily.

Cut the interfacing using the handles as a pattern.



Trim a ¼" from one short side and one long side of the interfacing. This will help prevent getting interfacing on your ironing board.



Follow the manufacturer's instructions to apply the interfacing. You can use a damp handkerchief and apply a hot, dry oven for 15 seconds. When the application is done, iron the handle pieces.

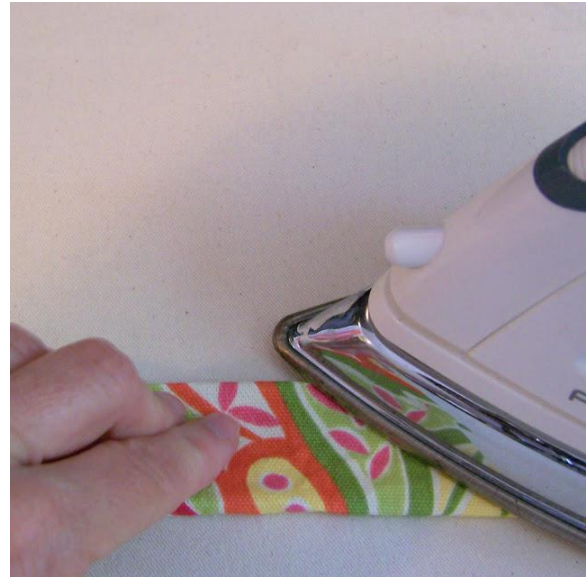


8. Turn handles inside-out. There are a number of products you can use to do this.

7. Sew handles: With right sides together, fold long edges of handle pieces together. Stitch long edge. Repeat with other handle.



9. Press the handle. You can stitch along the long edges of the handle, if desired. Stitch close to the edges, approximately 1/8" from the edge. Have your eye focus on the needle and edge of the fabric.



10. Sew bag: With right sides together, sew long sides of fabric. Press seams.



Tip: Pressing helps set your stitches and create a professional-looking seam. Use an up and down motion (not back and forth like ironing) to move along the length of the seam. Then press the seam to one side.

11. Repeat with contrast lining fabric.

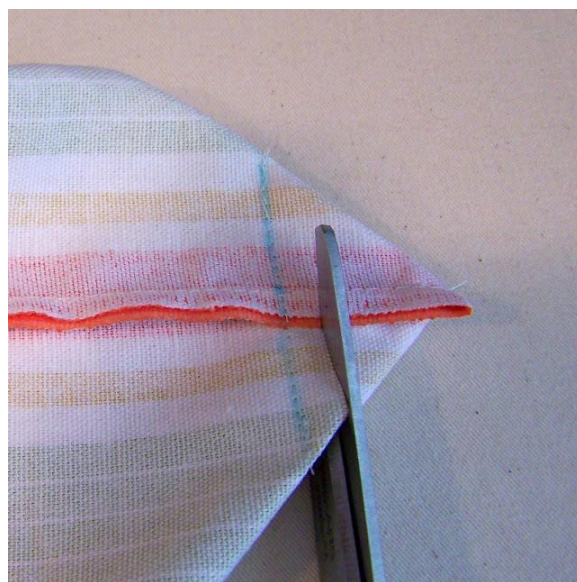
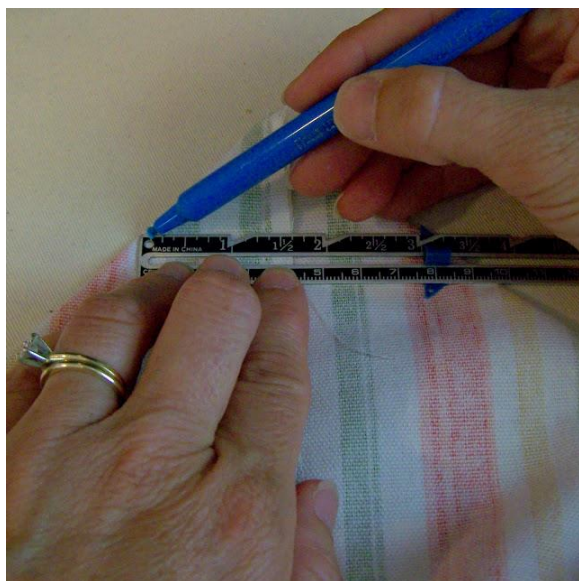
12. Make a mock box bottom.

Pull the fabric so that the seam is in the center and a triangle forms at the bottom of the bag.



13. Trim the triangle about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from sewn edge. Repeat on the remaining bottom corners of both bags.

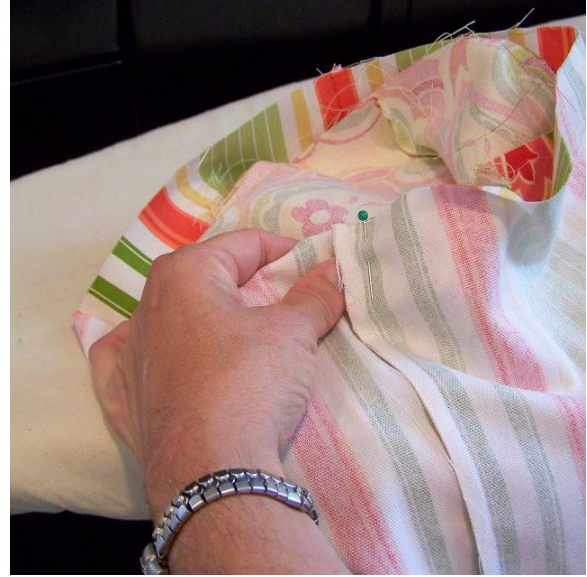
Find the point at which there are 3" across the base of the triangle and draw a line. Sew along this marked line.



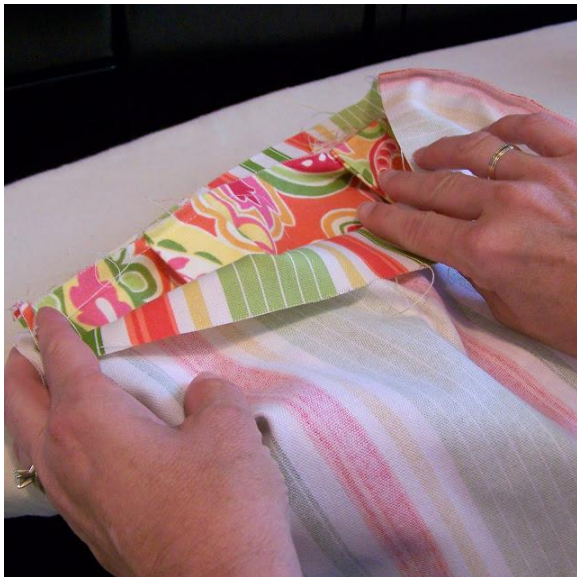
14. Pin handles to the bag front, right sides together, 3" from each edge. Stitch in place.



15. Insert bag with handles into the lining bag, right sides together.



17. Stitch around the top of the bag, all layers together, leaving a 2-3" opening for turning. You can leave the opening where there is no handle. Start by back-stitching and then stitch around the circle.



16. Start at the side seams and pin the fabric together around the top edge of the bag.



18. Pull the lining fabric through the opening.



19. Push the lining fabric inside the main fabric.



21. Top-stitch around the top edge. First stitch 1/8" from the edge and then repeat at 1/2" from the edge.



20. Press around the entire top, pressing the seam allowances at the opening under. Pin the opening closed.







22. Give the bag a final press and enjoy!



## Simple Foldable Market Purse

By: [MammaNene from Serger Pepper](#)

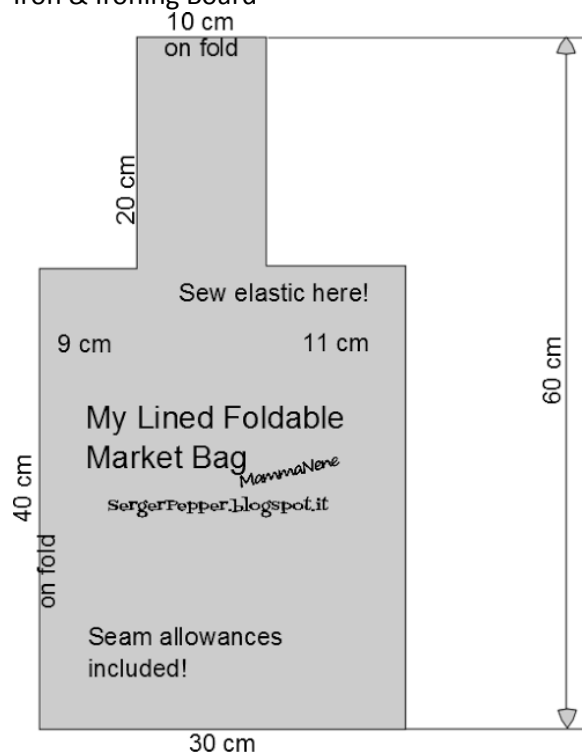
This Simple Foldable Market Purse is such an awesome alternative to canvas grocery bags, and a suitable project for the beginner sewer. Use this free purse pattern to make an incredibly simple, strong purse that's cute enough to wear out on the town but durable enough to carry even the heaviest of groceries without worrying about breakage. All you need to make this wonderful DIY grocery bag is an old sheet and some elastic. Best of all, you can roll it up and tuck it away at the end of the day.



### Materials:

- Two Pieces of Fabric - about 60 cm x 120 cm
- A Piece of Elastic - about 15 cm
- Scissors
- Pins
- Sewing Machine
- Thread
- Ruler
- Pen

- Iron & Ironing Board



### Directions:

1. Take your old bed sheets (already cut with measures above) and fold them in half and then in half again, like this:



2. You now have a 30 cm x 60 cm rectangle. Cut out two fabric rectangles, like the one on the scheme, and you'll obtain a strange shape, like this:



3. Repeat on the other bed sheet scrap (outer).



4. Now put the two pieces (main and lining) right sides facing each other and sew around the center hole. You can leave 1 cm of seam allowance, or sew leaving the foot edge as a seam allowance; it's not rocket science, you don't have to get mad about measurements! Include a piece of elastic on the seam near the corners you'll use to keep folded your market bag.



5. When it's all sewn, clip the fabric on the corners until you reach the seam, do not cut it. Then turn it inside out and press with a hot iron all around the seam, to give it a polished look.



6. Roll one side of the market bag inside one of the handles so that you can sew the main and the lining fabrics together, right sides facing, like this:



7. Starting from one side seam, finish to the other side seam (two 90° angles to sew and clip on the corners, like you did on the center hole), then turn inside-out, taking fabrics out with your hand.



8. Press everything nicely and repeat on the other side (rolling, sewing, turning and pressing, do everything twice!)



9. Close the side and bottom seams of both the outside fabric and the lining in one seam, right sides facing. Remember, you have to leave a gap on the lining bottom, so you can reverse everything inside-out.



10. You can stop here or, if you'd like a boxy shape, proceed squaring the corners on each one of the 4 angles, like this:



11. When you've turned your bag inside-out, you can stitch the gap by hand or with a straight machine stitch.



12. Your lined, foldable market bag is done.



## [A Fine Day T-Shirt Tote](#)

By: [Karissa from Simply the Good Life](#)

A Fine Day T-Shirt Tote is the perfect beginner's sewing project. Not only will you learn how to make a functional piece from these easy-to-follow instructions, you'll also practice your savvy upcycling skills by transforming your tee into a trendy tote. Store your fresh fruits and veggies in this DIY bag. A great tutorial for anyone new to the sewing machine, you can learn the skill yourself or use this project to teach your kids how to sew.



### Materials:

- Old T-Shirt
- Scissors
- Sewing Machine or Needle and Thread

### Directions:

1. Start with any T-shirt. (Non-fitted shirts will give you more square bags.) Choose old shirts from your closet or hit up your local thrift store.



2. Cut off the sleeves as close to the seam as you can without cutting the serged edge. Not cutting the finished edge of the fabric will help prevent fraying.



3. Turn the shirt inside-out and fold it in half. Use chalk or pencil to mark where you want to cut around the neck. Use straight pins to hold the layers of fabric in place.



4. Cut along the line you drew. Here is what it will look like at that point.



5. Flip the shirt inside out again, and sew a straight stitch across the bottom hem. Here is the finished product.



## Dollar Store Placemat Tote Bag

By: [Beverly from My Sew Sweet Studio](#)

The beginner sewer and their wallet will love this Dollar Store Placemat Tote Bag. Almost any material can be used to make a DIY tote bag, but using placemats guarantees durability and strong structure. The end product is so cute, no one will ever guess that you whipped up this tote with a few placemats and canvas! Use this free tote bag pattern to make a great bag with plenty of room and a square enough bottom to hold anything from towels to library books. Plus, using placemats makes this bag stain-proof and easy to clean.



### Materials:

- 3 Placemats
- 2 ½ Yards of Strapping
- General Sewing Supplies
- Size 16 denim needle for your machine
- Plastic Canvas to stabilize bottom of tote (Used for crosstitch)
- Scrap piece of white fabric to cover plastic canvas



### Directions:

1. This is the way to cut one of the placemats for pockets. The other two are used for the front and back and require no cutting.



2. The top two are 8 ½ inches X 8 ½ inches and are for the outside pockets. The bottom two are the leftovers and can be put on the inside. The middle strip is used as well but can be set aside for now. These are cut as such to take advantage of the hemmed part which will be the tops of the pockets.

The inside pockets have to be hemmed on two sides. Just turn under ¼ inch and baste. They have to be sewn on first and placed in the middle and 4 inches from the top of the wrong side of the placemat.



3. The top and one side already have a hem because of the way you cut them. Now sew around the sides and bottom, leaving the top open to form a pocket.



4. Do this on the wrong side of both placemats. The stitching on the right side will be covered with the outside pockets and strapping.

On the right side of the placemat, the stripes run horizontally. The pocket stripes will be vertical. Place the pocket in the middle and all the way to the bottom of the placemat. The top and one side of the pocket will be hemmed and the raw edge will be at the bottom. Sew down both sides and across the bottom, leaving the top open to form pocket. Repeat on the other placemat.



5. Cut the strap piece in half so you have two pieces 45" long. Place the strap over the pocket so it is half on the pocket and half on the placemat.



6. Pin the strap onto both sides of the pocket and the place mat as shown below.

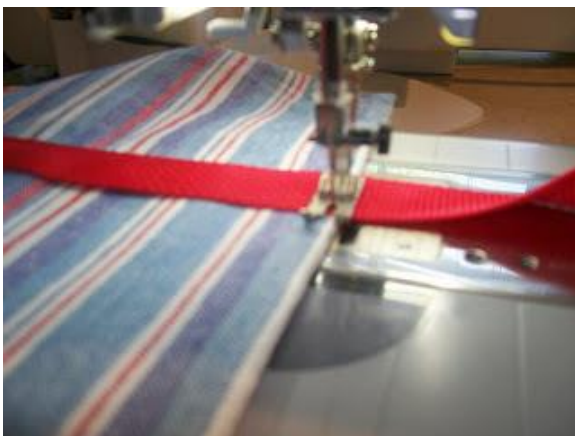




7. Sew down both sides of the strap.



8. Sew across the top and back-stitch back across to give extra stability.



9. This is what the inside and the outside should look like.



10. Place both placemats right sides together, pin, and sew around both sides and the bottom.



11. You could leave it like this and it is a flat tote. However you could also do one more step to give your tote a bottom.

To shape a flat bottom, match the bottom seam to the side seam at the corner making a flat triangle (pull seams apart first). Mark a line 2" from the point. Pin and sew on the line. Repeat for the other side.



12. This is what your tote should look like inside-out, upside-down.



14. Turn your tote right-side-out, place your bottom in and you are finished.



13. Measure the length and width of the bottom of your purse from the inside. That is the size you will cut the plastic canvas. Cut a piece of white fabric the length and width plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  " more each way. Sew a seam down the length, press open, and sew across the bottom. Turn right-side-out and slip over the plastic canvas piece. Slip-stitch the top opening closed.



## Adorable Reversible Bag for Girls

By: [Surayya from Blissful Sewing](#)

If you're learning how to sew by making a bag, you might as well get the most out of your efforts. The Adorable Reversible Bag for Girls delivers double the design in one tutorial and is small enough not to use up all of your pricey fabric. Create this soon-to-be favorite for the little gal in your life.



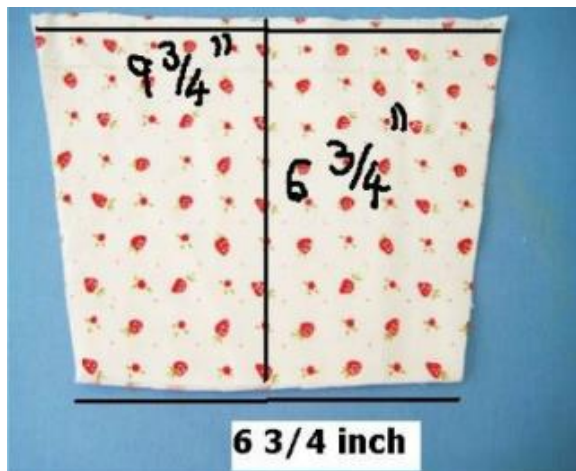
### Materials:

- ¼ Yard of Denim Fabric
- ¼ Yard of Strawberry Fabric
- ¼ Yard of Polka Dot Fabric
- Small Piece of Red Acrylic Felt

- One Safety Pin to attach the flower
- Sewing Notions and Sewing Machine

### Directions:

1. Cut out two pieces of the strawberry fabric with measurements as shown below. Repeat with the denim fabric to get two pieces as shown below.



2. You will get your pieces like this, two of each fabric.



3. Cut four pieces of polka dot fabric (4 X 12 inches) for the band at the top. Cut two pieces of polka dot fabric (4 X 12 ½ inches) for the handle.

4. Take the polka dot strips you cut for the bands, fold one of the raw edged inside along the length by 1 inch and press.



5. Fold the other raw edge in by 1 1/8 inch and press. The band will now be a little less than 2 inches wide.



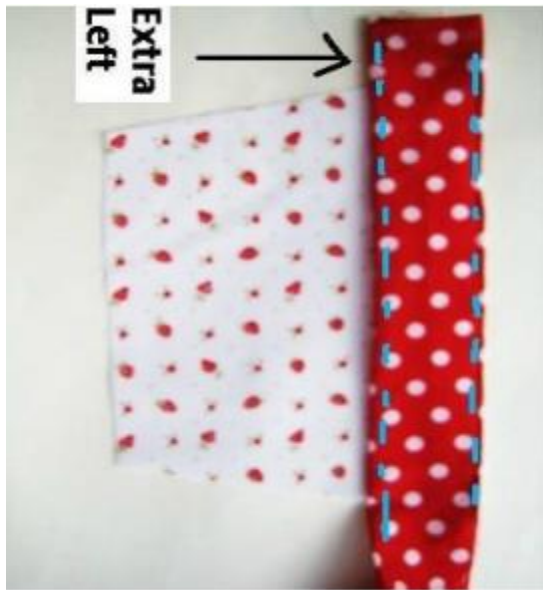
6. To make the handle, take the strips as per the table above, fold both the raw edges in by 1 inch and press just like you did for the band. Now fold it again at the middle and press to get a handle that is about 1 inch wide. Sew the long edges shut. Keep it aside.



7. Fold the raw edge at the top (the widest side) of the strawberry piece by 2/8 inches to the right side and press. Repeat with the other strawberry and denim pieces.



8. Keep the band you made over the top wide edge of the bag on the right side and sew along the edges as shown by the blue lines. Repeat for all the four pieces.



9. Cut off the excess band along the side of the strawberry piece following its shape.



10. After you finish attaching the bands it will look like this.



11. Keep the right sides together of both the strawberry pieces and sew as shown by the blue line with a 2/8 inch seams allowance. Repeat with your denim pieces.



12. Trim the bottom and top corners as well as the seams close to the stitch to reduce any bulk.





13. You will get two pouches like this.



14. Keep the denim pouch right-side-out and the strawberry one wrong-side-out. Insert the strawberry pouch into the denim one. You will now have the wrongs sides of the pouches touching each other.



15. Align the side and top seams.



16. Insert the bag handle between the two layers (almost 1 ½ inches inside on each side) and pin in place.



17. Sew along the top edge as shown below joining the two pouches and sandwiching the handle in between.



18. Your completed bag will now look like this.

## 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners



19. For the flower, cut out two flower motifs with pointy petals. The bigger layers were almost 2 ½ inches and the small is about 2 inches.



20. Overlap the two layers of petals.



21. Pinch the center and hand-sew to make the petals stand up. Attach it to the bag with a safety pin. When you want to reverse your bag, take the flower off and pin it to the new right side of the bag.



## Adult Bib Apron

By: [Jane from Maiden Jane](#)

Learn how to make an apron that's great for adults. For potentially messy meals, the Adult Bib Apron is a useful free sewing apron. Even the rookie to the sewing world can pick up techniques such as basic neck shaping and long draping to create an apron that will protect an entire outfit.



### Materials:

- 1 ½ yards of cotton fabric, washed and ironed
- Lined Apron
- Sew on Velcro
- Thread to match

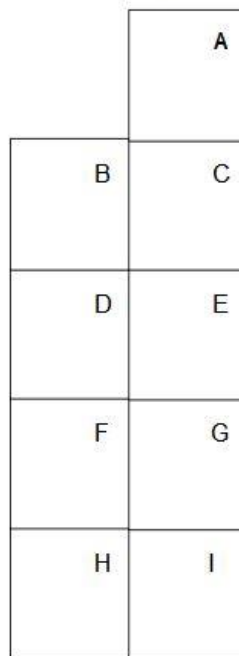
\*General Sewing Note: All seam allowances are ½ ”

### Directions:

1. Print the pattern pages, [available here](#). Once printed, cut rectangular pattern pieces along solid line.

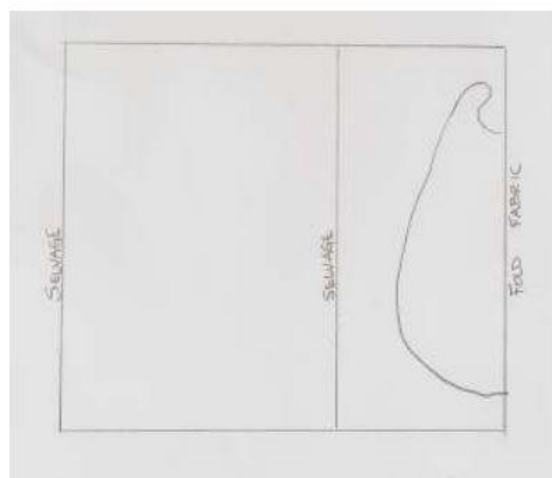
2. Assemble the pieces as shown below and tape together:

Pattern Piece Layout



3. Cut out the apron shape, making sure the pieces are securely taped together.

4. Arrange the fabric: Orient the selvages parallel to each other. Fold just enough fabric so that the pattern can be placed along the fold as illustrated below:





5. Open the cut piece and place it face down on the remaining fabric, right sides together, pin, and cut.
6. Sew around the edges of the apron using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance and leaving a 6" opening at the bottom.
7. Trim curves, turn inside-out, press. Press in seam allowance on unsewn section.
8. Edge stitch around entire apron.
9. Sew Velcro onto each side of the neckline piece so that the bib sits comfortably around the neckline.



## Bib with Bias

By: [MammaNene from Serger Pepper](#)

You don't need to be a skilled sewist to know the value of an affordable and lasting project. Adding a member to your family can be expensive, but there are ways to bring down the cost. You can learn how to make a baby's bib like the Bib with Bias Tape to save a few extra dollars. This baby bib sewing pattern is easy to follow and quick to produce. Upcycle materials around the house like towels and pillow cases to make your baby high fashion with a low price tag.



### Materials:

- Terry cloth 20 x 30 cm 8 x 12 in
- Bias tape
- Elastic height 0.4 cm

### Directions:

1. Position the pattern on the terrycloth (pay attention to the direction of the nap of the terrycloth, if there is one), and since the bibs will be finished on the sharp edge with the bias, the pattern does not need seam allowances. Proceed to cut the fabric. You can pin or weight the fabric and pattern to cut along the edge, or you can sketch the outline with a marker and then cut along the line.



2. To prevent the terrycloth from fraying too much, you should finish the edges with a zig-zag or with the serger. After sewing the bibs well, cut to bring down the exceeding pieces of terrycloth.



3. Start applying the bias. Starting from one of the asterisks, open one of the two wings and match the edge of the bib with the open edge of the bias. Bias against the wrong side of the terrycloth; pin all around. Sew on the fold line of the bias.



4. Take the bias and "wrap it" around the edge of the bib, enclosing it. Pin all around, then sew along the fold, on the bias, and on the right side of the bib.





5. Repeat the process for the neckline.



Pay attention to the edges that fold in.



Wrap the bias around the edge and pin.



6. Sew two 40 cm pieces of bias along the length. Fix the elastic inside the bias with a zig-zag stitch. Sew it to the bib in one of the two points marked with an asterisk [\*] on the pattern, sewing back and forth with a zig-zag stitch wide and short.

Sew on the fold line two bias pieces.



What you have now.



The bi-bias folded along the length.



Stitch the elastic inside the bi-bias.



7. Holding the elastic tautly within the bias, sew it with a zig-zag or straight-stitch up to the end of the elastic. Bend inside the bias and stitch it

to the other asterisk point in the same way as the other end.

Join the bi-bias to the bib, on the asterisk.



Sew along the opened side of the bi-bias, stretching the elastic.



The bib is ready. It's possible to decorate with applique, embroidery, maybe the baby's name!

## [Appliqué Basketweave Shirt for Boys](#)

By: [Stacey from Boy, Oh Boy, Oh Boy](#)

Giving a plain, boring shirt a boost doesn't have to be complicated. Cute sewing projects like the Appliqué Basketweave Shirt for Boys are great ways to transform a typical tee. This is the perfect sewing project for beginner sewers who are looking for upcycled t-shirt ideas. Appliqué ideas like this are budget-friendly and simple to produce. You can make this project in any color you want. Try it in a variety of colors on basic, solid-colored tees.



### Materials:

- Knit T-shirt
- Knit Fabric Strips (1-2 inches wide X desired width)
- Scrap of Fusible Interfacing
- Scissors
- Coordinating Thread
- Iron

### Directions:

1. Cut interfacing to desired shape and size. In this tutorial they are 8 inch X 5 inch rectangles. Lay rows of your knit fabric strips across vertically. Leave half the space of the actual strip size.



2. In order to speed up the weaving, you can fold down the strips that will go on top (see above).



3. Then fold them back over.



4. For the next strip fold back the opposite strips.



5. When you lay them down, make sure there is no white space showing between. Continue in this manner until the entire interfacing area is covered.



6. Iron the strips to the interfacing, being careful at each cross over. Then trim around, peel off the paper backing, and iron the appliqué to the t-shirt.



7. Sew around the outside edge of your shape to secure the appliqué to the shirt. You can stick with the same color pallet or give the edge a pop of contrast stitching.

## Super Soft Spa Slippers

By: [Surayya from Blissful Sewing](#)

You can make Super Soft Spa Slippers in just a few easy steps. There's no need to buy slippers for your little one when you can customize them to your own liking. Use any fabric, including old towels if you want to recycle. This easy sewing tutorial will show you how to sew slippers that you will love.



### Materials:

- Fabric for inner sole- fleece or cotton. You can also use your old bath towel if you wish to recycle.
- Fabric for outer sole - cotton or jiffy grip (optional)
- One side fusible heavy weight interfacing
- 0.5 cm foam or felt
- Bias binding
- ½ inch Elastic
- ½ inch Satin Ribbon
- Sewing Notions

\*Note – this mentions cotton fabric for the outer sole as it is meant to be worn on carpets; you can use jiffy-grip fabric for the outer sole to make it non-slippery.

### Directions:

1. Take your little one's shoe and put it on a white sheet of paper. With a pencil, mark around the shoe as close to it as possible. Do the same with the left and right pieces.



2. Cut out the two marked pieces to form the right and left templates. Now keep the template on the fleece (cotton), foam and interfacing. Mark them and cut them out.

This is the template for the upper part of the slipper.



3. Keep the slipper template on a white sheet of paper; draw a line about half an inch around the upper (wider) half of the template. Notice that at the lower end, the upper half widens a tad more to provide more room to insert the feet. Also, the lower edge of the upper curves slightly upwards.



Mark and cut the template. Keep the template on the fleece and cut four pieces from the fleece for the upper of the slipper.

\*Note that if you are using cotton fabric for the upper, you can cut two pieces of foam or felt to sandwich between the two pieces, this would add strength and comfort to the upper.



4. You will get your outer sole, foam, interfacing, inner sole, and upper pieces like the above.



5. Now take the cotton piece for the outer sole and the interfacing and fuse them following the manufacturer's instructions.



6. Layer the foam and fleece above the fused material, aligning the edges and pin. Sew the

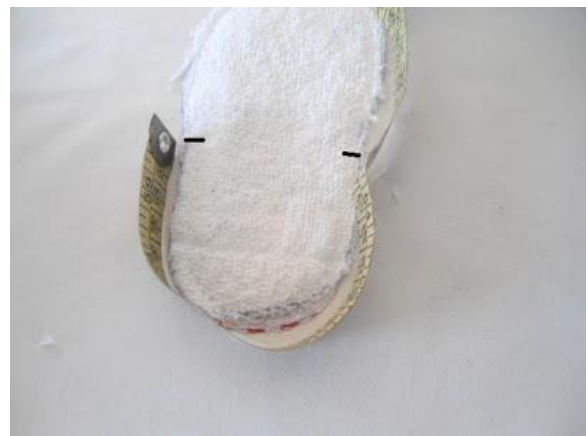
four layers together, removing the pins as you go.



7. To do the back strap for the slipper, mark the point where the elastic back-strap is to be attached. Take the upper part of the slipper, pin it around the sole and mark the two points where the ends of the upper touch the sole. Here a satin ribbon attaches to the elastic for the back strap. While you attach the satin ribbon onto the elastic, it ruffles up.



8. To find the length of the satin ribbon for the back-strap, hold the tape around the lower edge of the sole, from the first marked point to the second. The length of the elastic required would be two-inches less than the length of the satin ribbon.



9. Take the elastic and satin ribbon and attach them together by using your machine, keeping the elastic stretched all the time. Your satin ribbon will ruffle up.



10. Attach the ruffled satin ribbon onto the two points.



11. Now attach the bias tape. If you are not using a ready-made one, you can easily make one. Take a piece of cotton material (cut along the bias) about 2 ½ inches wide and of the required length. Fold it in half lengthwise and press. Open and fold the two raw edges inwards towards the center and press again. Your bias binding is ready.



12. Attach the binding onto the lower edge of the upper half of the slipper. Pin the upper part

of the slipper onto the sole, aligning the edges and sew it onto the sole.



13. Keep a tape all around the edge of the sole and find out the length of the bias tape required.



14. Sew the bias binding around the slipper as shown below. Keep the ends overlapping, tucking in the raw edges.



15. Your slipper is ready!

## Winter Is Coming Neck Warmer

By: [MammaNene from Serger Pepper](#)

Be ready for the cold with the Winter Is Coming Neck Warmer! Making DIY winter clothes can be intimidating, especially if you're a beginner sewist, but this easy sewing tutorial is the perfect place to start. All you need is a little fleece and some thread to make a delightfully cozy neck warmer that looks great and will keep you warm all winter long.



### Directions:

1. Cut the fabric in a rectangle with dimensions 60 cm by 25 cm. These measures are suitable for a child or an adult; they are dimensions that allow the head to pass through the hole that will be created.

2. Put the wrong sides of the fabric face to face, matching the edges.

Sew along the short side, as close as possible to the edge (about 0.5 cm), or you can sew it with the serger.



### Materials:

- About 1/3 Yard of Cream Fabric for Quilt Front and Back
- Quilt Batting
- Pre-packed Quilt Binding
- Scraps of Fall Color Fabrics
- Heat' n Bond or Wonder Under
- Iron
- Sewing Machine or Needle and Thread
- Pins
- Scissors
- Black Permanent Marker
- Computer paper



3. Turne the neck warmer inside-out and pin to keep in place. Stitch close to the seam, as well as the seam allowances inside.



4. The neckwarmer is ready to wear!



## [Adorable Hooded Baby Towel](#)

By: [Melissa from I Still Love You](#)

This Adorable Hooded Baby Towel is a simple sewing project – and pretty cute. Whether you need baby craft projects for an upcoming shower or not, you'll probably want to make this for the sheer sweetness of it. Sewing projects for beginners like this one are a great chance to brush up on your sewing skills and make bath time for baby a lot more fun.



### Materials:

- One Bath Towel
- One Hand towel
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pins
- Sewing Machine



### Directions:

1. Fold the hand towel in half lengthwise and cut 10 inches from finished edge.



2. Round the corner of the hoodie.



3. Pin right sides together.
4. Sew the cut edges.
5. Fold the bath towel in half widthwise.
6. Match the center of the bath towel to the seam of the hand towel.



7. Pin the right sides together and sew.
8. Give your little one a bath and enjoy!

## Easy to Make Pin Cushion

By: [Claire for blah to TADA!](#)

This easy-to-make pin cushion is a necessity for any sewing kit. Because of this project's functionality, the beginner sewist will constantly be reminded of their success every time they reach for a pin from this handy tool. Every time you embark on a new sewing adventure, you'll be well equipped thanks to this teeny but practical pin cushion.



### Materials:

- Old T-Shirt
- Sewing Machine or Needle and Thread
- Scissors



### Directions:

1. Cut a rectangle (this one is 7" x 5") out of the fabric, fold it in half & sew the ends together.



2. Sew a running stitch on one end and pull the thread to "seal" the bottom. Knot the thread.



3. Turn the fabric inside-out. Add stuffing.



4. Close the top with running stitch. Pull the thread and knot the end.



5. To make the tomato "ribs", pass a threaded needle at the "core" to the outside. Do this several times, making the stitches as tight as you want. Make the "crown" from green felt and stitch this to the top of the tomato. TADA! Your very own pin cushion!





## E-Reader Cover

By: [Surayya from Blissful Sewing](#)

Covers for electronic reading devices can be expensive. Follow this free, easy sewing pattern to make the E-Reader Cover and customize your device. Beginner sewing projects like this let you put your own, special touch on your e-Reader. Don't settle for a plain, boring cover from the store. You can make this budget-friendly cover at a low cost. This pattern is also great if you're interested in sewing homemade gifts.



### Materials:

- Cotton Fabric - ¼ yard
- Medium weight fusible interfacing- ¼ yard
- Batting (alternatively you can use felt) ¼ yard
- Velcro
- Sewing Notions

The table below gives the measurements for the main piece, pocket piece, and interfacing for various e-readers. Note that "L" stands for the length of the fabric and "W" stands for the width of the fabric cut.

|                 | Main Piece     | Main Interfacing | Pockets       | Pocket Interfacing |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Kindle Fire     | 8.75L X 12.25W | 8L X 11.5W       | 8.75L X 6.25W | 8L X 5.5W          |
| Kindle Keyboard | 8.75L X 12.25W | 8L X 11.5W       | 8.75L X 6.25W | 8L X 5.5W          |
| Kindle 3G       | 9.25L X 13.25W | 8.5L X 12.5W     | 9.25L X 6.75W | 8.5L X 6W          |
| Kindle Touch    | 8.25L X 12.25W | 7.5L X 11.5W     | 8.25L X 6.25W | 7.5L X 5.5W        |
| Sony Pocket     | 7.5L X 10.75W  | 6.75L X 10W      | 7.5L X 5.5W   | 6.75L X 4.75W      |

\*Note: The seam allowance is 3/8 inch throughout.



### Directions:

1. Cut the fabric pieces for the main piece, pocket piece, main interfacing, pocket interfacing, main batting, and pocket batting, referring to the table above. Note that the batting pieces are of the same measurements as the interfacing pieces.



2. Take the pocket piece and the pocket interfacing and fuse the interfacing onto the wrong side of the fabric following the manufacturer's instructions. Note that you have to leave 3/8 inch space all around while fusing.

Do the triangular corner pieces that would hold the e-Reader in place while reading.



3. Cut four fabric squares and two interfacing pieces of 3" x 3" dimension.



4. Take two of the above mentioned squares and fuse the interfacing onto the wrong side. Cut the two fused squares along the diagonal to get four equal sized triangles as shown below. Cut the other two fabric squares as well to get four fabric triangles.



5. Take a fused triangle and a plain one, layer them with the right sides together and align the edges. Sew along the longer edge as marked below.



6. Turn over to the right side and press. Top-stitch along the longer side to make the triangle neat and crisp. Clip the protruding corners. Repeat the steps with the other triangles to get the four corner pieces of the pocket.



7. Pin the four triangles onto the four corners of the pocket, on the right side, aligning the edges. Sew the triangles onto the pocket, removing the pins as you go.



8. Take the other pocket piece (not fused with interfacing) and keep it over the done pocket piece, with the right sides together and aligning the edges. Sew along one of the longer edge, as marked below. Turn over to the right side and press. Top-stitch along the seam line of the two pieces to make it neat and crisp.



9. Sew the two raw edges together on the right side as marked below to keep it in place.

Now you need to insert the batting. The two shorter sides of the pocket are left open.



10. Take the batting for the pocket and insert it through one of the opening till it reaches the other end, keeping it straight and without wrinkles, as you go.

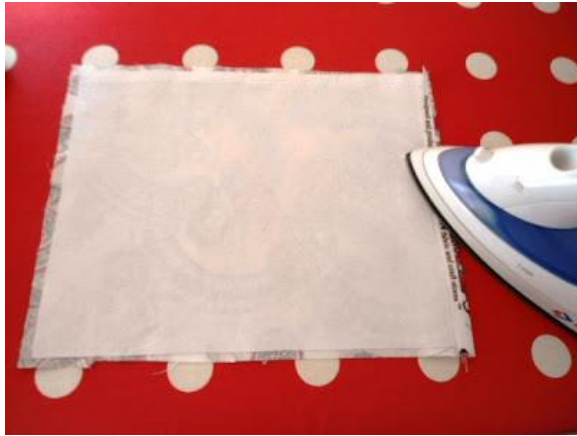
Now attach the pocket onto the main piece of the cover.



11. Take the main fabric piece and the interfacing and fuse the interfacing onto the wrong edge of the fabric, leaving a 3/8 inch space all around, as shown below.



12. Fold one of the shorter edges of the main piece by 3/8 inch and press.



13. Now take the done pocket and keep it on the right side of the main body of the cover, aligning the raw edges and with the finished side of the pocket along the center as shown below. Pin. Sew the pocket onto the main body along the black line as marked in the picture.

Now add the strap and the Velcro for closure.



14. Take a piece of fabric, 4 1/2 inches long and 3 1/2 inches wide. Fold it in half lengthwise and sew along the marked line below.



15. Turn it inside out, press taut and top-stitch around the edges to make it look neater. Now take the Velcro piece, of about 1" x 1" dimension, and place it at a distance of 2 1/2 inches from the raw edge of the strap. Secure the Velcro piece by sewing around its edges.

Attach the strap and the corresponding Velcro piece onto the other main cover piece (without pockets and interfacing).



16. Take the other piece meant for the main body; fold one of its shorter edges inwards by 3/8 inch and press.

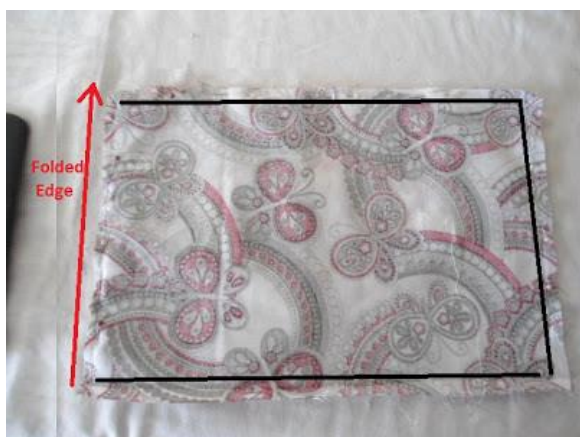


17. Now keep the piece on its right side and mark the center of the two of its shorter edges. Place the Velcro piece 2 inches from the folded shorter edge of the fabric piece and sew around its edges to secure. Now place the strap at the marked point on the other side in such a way

that the Velcro is exposed. Secure it by sewing along its shorter edge.



18. Take the two main body pieces, layer them with the right sides together and align the edges (the folded edges of the two pieces should come together). Sew along the marked line as shown below. The folded shorter edge is left open to insert the batting.



19. Turn the cover inside-out. Poke out the corners with the tip of your scissors and press taught.



20. Take the batting with the required dimension and insert it through the opening till the other shorter edge as shown below.



21. Sew the opening shut along the marked line (blue).



22. Your e-reader cover is ready in less than an hour!

## Braided Scrap Coasters

By: [Kathie from Curious and Catcat](#)

Sew these Braided Scrap Coasters using your extra fabric to keep your table water and ring-free. Homemade coasters are a budget-friendly alternative to similar, more expensive products from the store. This DIY sewing project is also environmentally friendly because it is made from materials you might have otherwise thrown out. Put a personal touch on your kitchen by sewing coasters you will love to display. You could even make a few sets using different combinations of fabric.



### Materials:

- Old clothes or fabric in three colors of your liking
- Sewing Machine
- Scissors
- Some Pins

### Directions:

1. Choose three different fabrics and cut them in scraps. These were about 2 inches wide, but you can make them wider if you wish. This will give you a chunkier coaster. You can try to cut one long strip or simply tie the short strips together to get a long one.

\*Tip: When it comes to braiding with very long pieces of fabric/yarn/etc. the strands tend to tangle very fast. To avoid that leave one of the fabrics in short strips and knot them together as you go. No tangling! And you will save SO much time!



2. Braid the strands of fabric like normal until you reach the end/lose interest/have no fabric left in your house. For one coaster you won't need more than 40 inches. When the loose ends tangle and you need to bring order to your work, use a pin to secure the braided section. Just pin it through all three strands from the side.



3. Get your sewing machine ready! This example uses pink yarn so that the stitches are visible in the end. Take one end of the finished braided band and start to curl. Two or three turns should be enough. Fixate with a pin and

criss-cross over it with a simple stitch of your sewing machine for extra fixation.



4. Now put your sewing machine on zig-zag stitch and start joining the braided bands. Curl and join as you go until the coaster has the preferred size. Cut the strands and sew around the outer edge of the coaster. Then, sew all the way back to the middle again with a smaller zig-zag stitch (same width but smaller step distance). This will fix smaller mistakes from the first round and make the stitches pop out more.



5. They are so lovely rustic, sturdy, and washable. And it's a beautiful and easy recycling project, too! Have fun making your own!

## Almost No Sew Lampshade Tutorial

By: [Beverly for My Sew Sweet Studio](#)

Learn how to make a lampshade with this beautiful Almost No Sew Lampshade Tutorial. Flaunt your newfound sewing skills with projects like this. Quick and easy to put together, you'll be surprised that such a gorgeous home dec piece can be constructed by a beginner like yourself.



### Materials:

- Lamp Shade (to measure shape of)
- Fabric (To figure how much fabric you need, measure from top to bottom of the lampshade. That is the length you need. This example is 15 inches, so ½ yard of fabric was used. Then measure around the bottom of the lampshade which is the width. This example is 42".)
- ½ yd. of fabric for the bias strips
- Spray Adhesive
- Super Thick Tacky Glue

- Cutter
- Ruler
- Cutting Board
- Pencil
- Small ruler
- Scissors
- Pin
- A small piece of tissue paper or pattern paper

### Directions:

1. Start by pulling off the bias strips from the lampshade. Here you'll see it was tearing the lining that was glued around to the front. If this happens to you hold it down with the little ruler.



2. You will need to make a pattern of this area between the wire frames. Here a paper towel was used. It worked just fine. Tape it to the top and draw along the wires and top and bottom. It doesn't have to be perfect as the edges of the fabric will all be covered with bias strips.





3. Roll pieces of scotch tape and put on the back of the pattern. Now you can put it on the lamp shade and make any adjustments.



4. The tape works well to hold it to the fabric while cutting. Here there were 8 pieces for the shade; they were cut side by side so the pattern of the fabric would seem continual. There is no way of matching the seams because of the shape of the pieces, but even if you had a plain, it would be continual on the horizontal line.

Stack them as you cut them to keep in order.



5. Spray the wrong side of your fabric pieces with adhesive. Read the instructions on your can, as they may all be different. You don't want to get that stuff on anything as it stays tacky.



6. This is so easy. Press down getting all the bubbles and wrinkles out, just like wallpaper.



7. Same method with the second piece.



8. And all the way around until the last one.



9. Now to the bias strips. Start by laying the fabric flat.



10. Bring the left upper corner down until you form a 45 degree angle.



11. Press the fold with your iron.



12. Double the fold over and you will have 4 layers of fabric with two folds. This gives you a shorter area to cut.



13. Line the folds up just a little over one of the lines on your cutting board. Line up the ruler on the line. Cut off the folds.



14. Cut 1 ½ inch strips by moving your ruler over.



15. Cut several strips. You may have to go back and cut more.



16. The strips will all be long enough for all the vertical pieces and for the top horizontal one, but the bottom of the lamp will need a longer piece. Piecing bias strips can be a little tricky, but hopefully the picture below will help.

Lay two ends together at a right angle, right sides together.



17. Place your ruler from where the fabric meets at the top to where the fabric meets at the bottom and draw a line.

## 16 Easy Sewing Projects for Beginners



18. Pin the fabrics and sew on the line (you can't see the line) from where the fabric meets at the top to where the fabric meets at the bottom.



19. If you don't sew at all, you could easily glue these ends together. Now trim the seam and press open.



20. Measure and cut one strip for the top, one for the bottom (the one you pieced) and one of each of the divisions of your shade to cover the raw edges. The one for the top and bottom will need to be an inch longer. The vertical ones can be just a tiny bit shorter than the measurement. For each piece you will do the following:

Press  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to the wrong side.



Now press  $\frac{1}{2}$  " over again, so you have a finished bias of  $\frac{1}{2}$  ".



Open up the last  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch you pressed over and run a little bead of glue.



Finger press and let dry. Notice that the raw edge does not quite reach the edge and that is just the way you want it so it won't show when glued to shade.



21. Now hold up the strip and cut to fit. It should be slightly shorter at both ends of shade. Cut 8 of your strips to this length. Then cut one to fit around the top and one around the bottom. Glue all as above turning one end under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " on the short end of the two long strips.



22. You will need a really wet cloth for the next step. You are going to lay a bead of glue along each strip (one at a time) and smear it with your finger. This is where the wet cloth comes in. It is really messy and sticky.



23. Now put one at a time on each of the divisions and finger press really well. The thick tacky glue will hold right away.



24. Once you do all the vertical ones you'll be excited to finish. It will look so professional.



25. When you do the long strips, you have to overlap. Start with the raw edge and overlap with the folded edge as explained above.



26. This is what the bottom edge will look like.



# ALLFREESEWING

Free Patterns To Keep You In Stitches



### A special thanks to our contributors:

Beverly from [My Sew Sweet Studio](#)  
Claire from [blah to TADA](#)  
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Melissa from [I Still Love You](#)  
Ros from [Sew Delicious](#)  
Stacey from [Boy, Oh Boy, Oh Boy](#)  
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