

Frontline workers/Nurses Laundry bag Pattern

Fabric Bag Solution – March 2020 by Joanne Morneau



- Pre-wash fabric. ½ inch seam allowances. Use 100% cotton or poly cotton.

Cut 1 piece 20 long by 20 inches wide **on the fold**, or 20 long by 40 wide single layer. You will only have one side seam. For base of bag cut a rectangle, 1 piece - 11½ inches across width and 12 inches long and then round corners – see photo. If super thin fabric, cut 2 pieces of base. Fold base into four and notch it into 1/4 - sides, top and bottom of base.

Assemble

- Fold long piece in half. Using fabric soluble pen or chalk, make a mark 3/4 inch and 2 ¾" from top edge on open side only.
- straight stitch side seam (1/2 inch seam allowance) to each mark point, securing at start and end points with back stitches creating a 2 inch opening.
 - Finish raw edges of this side seam in single layer, do not trim. If serging cut threads short, no need to seal or tie off OR Finish raw edges with zig zag stitch or double fold and use a 1/4" seam. Press open.
 - Stitch a box shape around the 2 inch opening (gap in the seam)
 - Serge top raw edge of the bag, in the round, leave serged tail, approx 3/4-1" OR press under and straight stitch to finish – you don't want it to fray.
 - Fold top hem down 1 3/4 ". Slit opening is folded in half to create a 1 inch opening for the drawstring. Match up the side seam. Press. Turn bag right-side out.
- Stitch top(casing) just above serge line, or approx 1/4". Tuck serging tail into casing to hide and secure. Or stitch casing closed.



Add base



Take top piece of bag fold in ¼'s at bottom: notch or mark center, and sides. Pin bottom of top piece of bag to base piece, matching up notches/pins at four sides. Stitch in place with a ½ inch seam allowance. Serge or zig zag raw edges.

Cording

Cut cord, rope or twill tape/bias tape 56 - 60 inches long . Use a bodkin or a safety pin to pull cord through casing

- Best to stitch ends of drawstring with zig zag or straight stitch to prevent fraying. Add knot or double knot at end to secure.



USING A PILLOW CASE?? If you are working with a raw edge at the top, you need to open the side seam to create the channel – the side seam will be very narrow and probably serged., It needs to lay flat so you can sew the box around the opening for the drawstring. If the top of the pillow case is folded and finished, use it as the top of the laundry bag. Open the side seams and use this as the channel for the drawstring rather than folding it over.