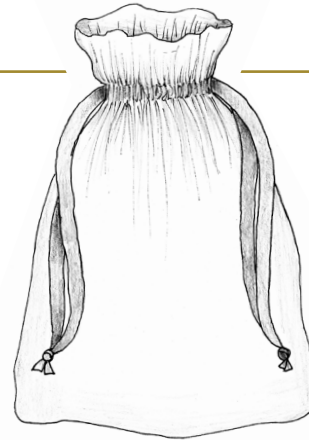




# Double Drawstring Bag

## Introduction

This project is a simple, multipurpose bag with a double drawstring closure. You will need only one piece of fabric, for it forms its own casing. As you sew, you will leave an opening in each side seam for a ribbon. Once they are inserted in the casing, pull both the ribbons at the same time to smoothly and securely close the bag.



## Tools, Supplies & Materials

### Tools & Equipment

- Sewing machine
- Steam iron & ironing board
- Rotary Cutter\*, cutting mat\* & rotary cutting ruler\*
- Small ruler or seam guide
- Straight pins
- 4" Sewing scissors\*
- Pencil or chalk marker\*

### Fabric & Notions

- Enough light- to medium-weight cotton or lightweight drapery fabric to cut out one 12" x 32" piece
- Two 28" pieces of ribbon or twill tape for ties
- Thread to match the fabric

Right side of fabric

Wrong side of fabric

Finished size 11" x 13½"

All seam allowances 3/8"

\* See Sewing Suppliers List at end of document.

## Instructions

### Cutting Out

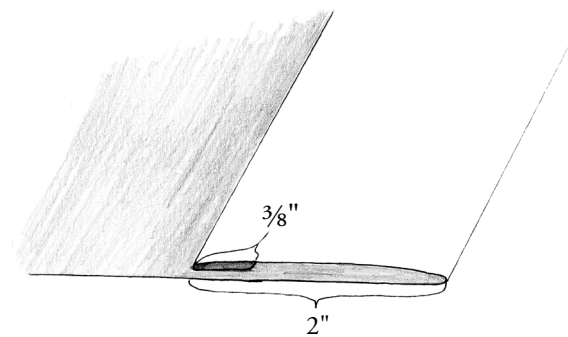
Use the rotary cutting system or make a paper pattern piece to cut a 12" x 32" rectangle.

### Make the Casing

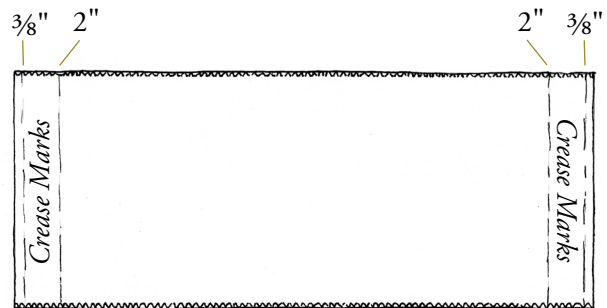
- Lay the fabric on a flat surface wrong side up. Mark a line  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the cut edge on one 12" side of the fabric.

**Note:** For light-colored fabric, lightly mark with a pencil. For darker fabric, use a chalk marker.

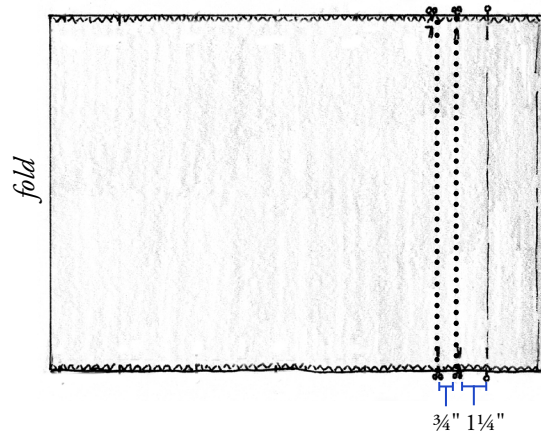
- Measure and mark a second line  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " from the first line.
- Repeat both markings on the other 12" edge.
- Along one 12" edge, fold the cut edge to the first line on the wrong side, making a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " fold and press to crease.
- Bring the fold line to the second marked line and press again.
- Repeat for the other 12" edge.



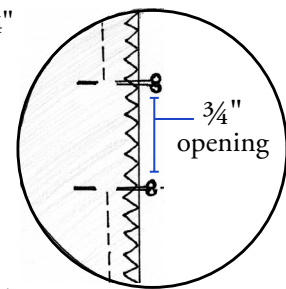
- Open the fabric up flat. Zigzag along the two long edges to finish the raw edge.



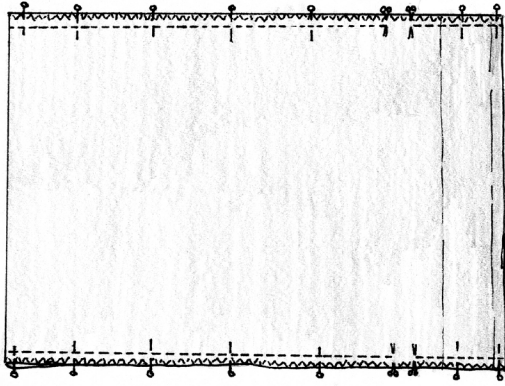
- With the creased edges still unfolded, fold the fabric in half with the right sides together and the 12" edges aligned. Match the creases and the marking lines. Put a pin at the second crease mark on both edges.



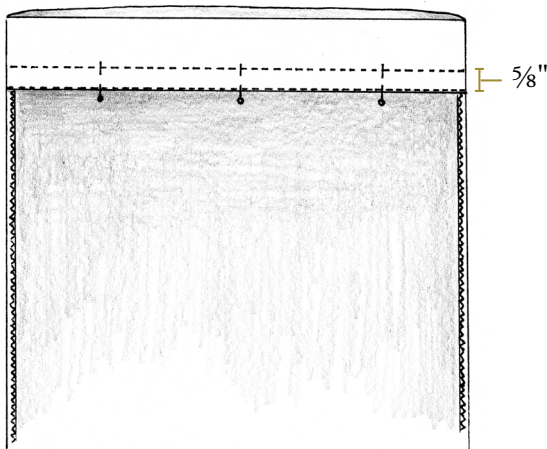
- To mark a space for the openings, measure  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " below the second crease line. Make a clear mark on the outer edge or place two pins side by side to remind you not to sew any further.



- Measure  $\frac{3}{4}$ " below the double pins and pin in two more pins side by side.
- Pin the remaining edge together and repeat for other side of bag.



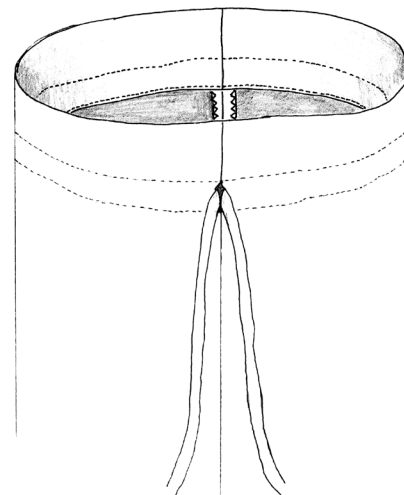
- Sew the side seams with a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance. Remember NOT to sew between the double pins! Be sure to backstitch on each side of opening. Lift up the presser foot and move the fabric forward to skip over the opening. Finish sewing the seam. Trim all threads.
- Repeat on the other side.
- Finger press the seam open along the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " openings.
- Re-fold the top edge of the bag along the original fold lines ( $\frac{3}{8}$ " and then 2"). Pin, matching the seams. Pin at the quarter points first, then pin in between them.
- Stitch the casing in place close to the folded edge beginning at a side seam. Overlap a few stitches at the end.



- To make the casing, mark a line  $\frac{5}{8}$ " from the stitching line.
- Sew on this line, starting at the side seam. At the end, overlap a few stitches.
- Clip all the threads. Turn the bag right side out and poke out the corners.

### Insert the Ribbons

- Insert the first ribbon into the casing using a safety pin or a bodkin. Bring the ribbon back out the same opening. Tie the ends of the ribbon together. Cut the ribbon edge diagonally to prevent fraying.
- Insert the second ribbon into the *opposite* opening and bring it all the way around and back out the same opening it went in. Tie the ribbon ends together and clip them diagonally.
- Your bag is finished! To close it, pull on both tied ends at the same time.



Review this video:

[Project 4: Double Drawstring Bag](#)

Watch the next video: [Project 5: Bag Caddie](#)

## Questions about Sewing?

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Submit any questions for Crissa in the Q&A section on the course homepage or post it to our blog at [www.sustainlife.org/blog/category/sewing/](http://www.sustainlife.org/blog/category/sewing/)

## Sewing Suppliers

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### Simply Fabrics

6408 Gholson Road  
Waco, Texas 76705  
254.829.7119  
[info@simplyfabrics.com](mailto:info@simplyfabrics.com)

## Additional Videos

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### Beginning Sewing

- [Introduction to Sewing](#)
- [Introducing the Projects](#)
- [Notions & Fabrics](#)
- [Sewing Machine](#)
- [Cutting Methods](#)
- [Foundational Sewing Practice](#)

### Project Videos

- [1 Tissue Holder](#)
- [2 Shoe Bag](#)
- [3 Gift Bag](#)
- [5 Bag Caddie](#)
- [6 Bread Cloth](#)
- [7 Basic Pillowcase](#)
- [8 Lined Drawstring Bag](#)
- [9 Pillowcase with Contrasting Band](#)
- [10 Flange Pillow](#)
- [11 Tote Bag](#)
- [12 Lined Apron](#)