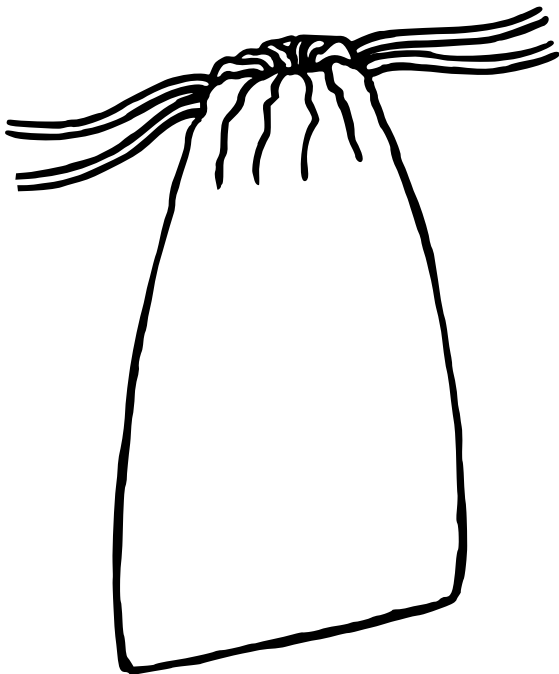


KHERMADION

Issue 6



How to sew a drawstring bag

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The sixth issue of KHERMADION shows how to sew a small drawstring bag for storing slings.

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1 Introduction

Small bags are useful for storing your slings so that they don't come into contact with stones or other sharp objects you might be carrying around.

The following instructions show how to sew a simple yet beautiful drawstring bag.

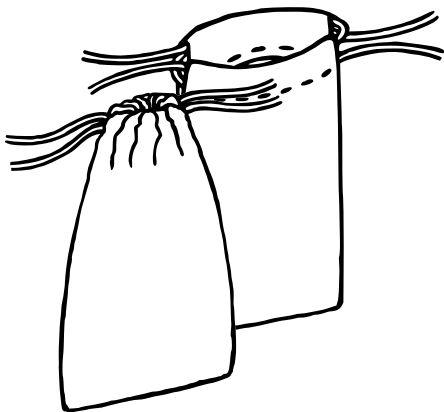


Figure 1: A drawstring bag, opened and closed.

2 Cutting two rectangles

First, choose one or two pieces of fabric and cut two rectangles out of them. One is for the inside of the bag and may be a bit thinner, the other is for the outside and should be sufficiently tough, but not too thick. A size of $14\text{ cm} \times 36\text{ cm}$ will yield a bag measuring about $10\text{ cm} \times 15\text{ cm}$. If you want, you can use different colors for the inside and the outside of the bag.

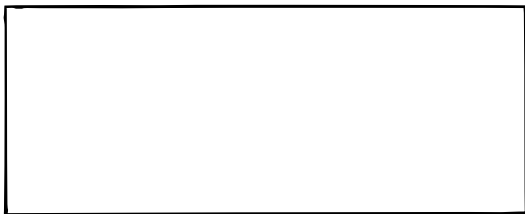


Figure 2: A rectangular piece of fabric.

3 Sewing the rectangles

Put the two pieces on top of each other and sew them together, but leave a small section near the center of the long edge open. To prevent the fabric from fraying, you can additionally hem the edges using a zig-zag stitch, again leaving the small section near the center of the long side out.

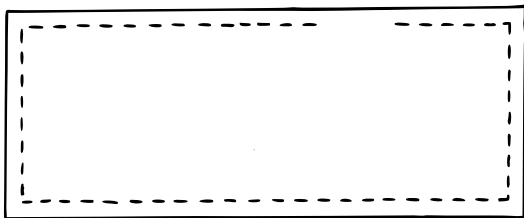


Figure 3: Two fabric rectangles sewn together.

4 Turning the rectangle inside out

Turn the piece of fabric inside out through the section you left open in the previous step. Use a pen or a ruler, for example, to push the corners out and smooth the fabric down afterwards.

Then, sew up the open section through which you turned the fabric inside out. The cutting edges of the fabric rectangles are now hidden on the inside and won't be visible in the finished bag.



Figure 4: The fabric rectangles turned inside out, with the open section stitched up.

5 Creating the casings

Put the fabric down so that the side which will later be on the outside of the bag faces downwards. Fold the short edges of the rectangle inwards so that the doubled-up sections are 2.5 cm wide and stitch them down near the inner ends of the doubled-up sections. This creates the casings of the bag – two hollow tubes through which the drawstrings will be threaded, allowing you to close the bag. Take special care with this seam as it will be visible from the outside of the bag. Using a thread which matches the color of the outside fabric will make the seam less noticeable.

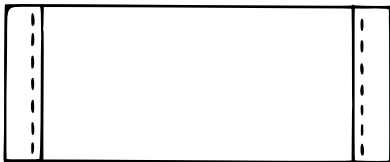


Figure 5: The short edges of the rectangle folded over and sewn to create the casings of the bag.

6 Sewing the bag

Fold the rectangle in half so that the side which will be on the outside is on the inside for now. Sew the long edges together, but leave the casings open. The stitches near the casings will be stressed most, so reinforcing them with a second row of stitches might relieve them a bit.

Then, turn the bag inside out.

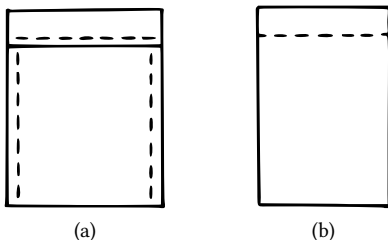


Figure 6: The rectangle sewn together to form the bag before (a) and after (b) being turned inside out.

7 Inserting the drawstrings

Take two pieces of cord and thread them through the hollow tubes at the top of the bag, so that the ends of each cord come out on the same side. A crochet hook or a piece of bent wire might help with this.

By pulling at the ends of the two cords the top of the bag will contract and stay closed until you open it again. If you want, you can tie the ends of the cords together, either all of them at once or the ends of each cord separately.

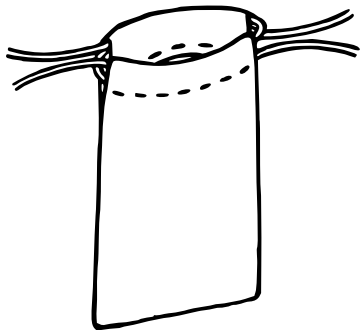


Figure 7: The drawstring inserted into the casings at the top of the bag.