

# BACKPACK INSTRUCTIONS



This tutorial is for a backpack! Make it out of any material you have accesible and we hope you find a use for it!

## CUT THE PATTERN



1. Cut all of the patterns. There should be one Flap, one Rectangle for the body of the backpack, one pattern for the two Straps and one pattern for the Loops which allow the straps to be adjustable.

## MAKE DRAWSTRING



2. Cut a 2.5 cm, or 1 inch, thick strip from the bottom of a T-Shirt. Alternatively, the width is equal to the width of your 2 fingers! This will result in a large loop.

3. Cut the loop open into two long strips. If your T-Shirt has seams, you can cut at the seams!

## PREPARE STRAPS



4. Fold strap in half, lengthwise, and mark 1.3 cm, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, on the long edge. Do the same for one of the short edges. Sew.

5. Use any stick you have, a pencil works well, to turn the strap inside out. Position the pencil against the seam on the short edge you sewed and push it into the tunnel of the strap. The end goal is a reversed strap where the seams do not show.

6. Do steps 4 & 5 for the other strap!

7. You also need to prepare two loops. These loops are sewn and prepared exactly the same way as the straps, they are just smaller!

## PREPARE FLAP

8. Fold the flap in half. Mark 1.3 cm, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch on the two shorter sides. Sew.





9. Turn it inside out. One edge should be completely open.

## SEW DRAWSTRING CASING



10. Mark a line 7 cm, or 2.75 in, off the short edge from one of your large rectangles. This will be the casing for the drawstring.

11. If you are working with fabric instead of tarp (or any other plastic material), mark a second line, only 1.3 cm, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  in, away. Fold over and sew in the center. This will prevent fraying when you proceed to make a tunnel for your drawstring.

12. Make sure to mark the two lines for where the drawstrings will be coming out. Cut.

13. Fold on the 7 cm, or 2.75 in, marking it. Sew 1.3 cm, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  in, away from edge.

14. You will need a safety pin to push the drawstring through the tunnel. Pull the drawstring while making sure you do not lose it on the other end. You should leave about 1.3 cm, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, of it exposed.

15. Sew the end, securing the drawstring.

16. Now, put it through the second hole you had cut from the pattern and push it to the other end of the bag. Sew that end as well, securing the drawstring.

17. Cut the center so you are able to tie bows.

## ATTACH STRAPS

18. The patterns have the locations for where the straps need to be placed on the rectangle. Sew the top of the two straps onto the back to secure.

19. The pattern also has the locations for the loops. Fold the previously sewn loop in half to create the loop, attach to where the pattern indicates and sew onto the back rectangle to secure.

## ATTACH FLAP

20. Attach the flap where your straps were sewn. If your flap is shorter than the length of your backpack, that is okay! Just make sure the flap is centered. Mark 1.3 cm, or 1.2 in, and sew. Don't forget to reverse!



## SEW THE BAG

21. Place the back of the backpack upwards, with the straps, loops and flap facing you. Place the front of the backpack downwards, with the drawstring facing down.
22. Pin it all around and mark 1.3 cm, or ½ inches all 3 edges, except the side with the drawstring. Sew.
23. Now we want to sew the bottom corners of the backpack, so the backpack can stand on its own! Take your 4 fingers and find the corner, straightening out a triangle. Mark about 5 cm, or 2 in, away from the point of the triangle. Mark, pin and sew.
24. Do the same thing for the other corner. Remember to reverse for both corners!
25. You can cut off the leftover triangle on the corners, about 1.3 cm, or ½ in, away from the seams you have just sewed.