

SANTA BAGS FOR OCJ KIDS

Our objective is to make Santa bags for the Group Homes to use to take home the gifts they receive at their annual holiday party. They would like the bags to be about 4 feet tall and we will sew the selvages together for the bag width, so a finished bag would 40-42 inches wide and 47-48 inches tall. The bag will then cinch closed with a strap of about 80-85 inches long. We do have the materials needed to cinch the bags or you can make a strong sash or heavy rope to use to cinch the bags.

1. Cut 2 pieces of fabric length 50 inches, multiple fabrics are ok, just serge pieces together and measure 50 inches, widths are not always the same but that is ok since we are making a bag to hold gifts.
2. Serge (or fold over and sew) the top (will be folded 1 inch down)
3. Create the casing by folding this top edge down 1 inch and iron
4. Making sure the selvage edges will not show, sew one side top to bottom and the other side starting just below the folded over section (do not catch the folded over section).

Finishing the casing

1. To create the opening for the cinching, using the side seam as a guide, unfold the casing and open up the side seam and top stitch to secure it open, then refold the casing down.
2. Starting at the seam line, sew around the casing and make sure to secure at the opening so it doesn't tear when using. You have now created the casing to insert the cinching fabric.
3. Sew the bottom seam but make sure the seam is finished (serged, tight zigzag, other overcast stitch or french-seamed) so it doesn't ravel. Insert the cinching rope and secure the ends together so it cannot be removed.