



Quick Projects To Do

Project 2

Wheelchair Bag

Prior to the Meeting:

1. Pre-wash your fabric.
2. Cut out the fabric using the guidelines listed below. The finished dimensions of the bag will be approximately 18 inches wide and 24 inches long.

A. For 60-inch material:

- 1). Straighten one cut edge of the material.
- 2). Cut one strip 19 1/4 inches wide and 60 inches long. Leave the selvages on the ends of the strip.
- 3). Bring the pair of shoelaces with you.

B. For 45-inch material:

- 1). Straighten one cut edge of the material.
- 2). Cut one strip 19-1/4 inches wide and 45 inches long. Leave the selvages on the ends of the strip.
- 3). Cut one strip (this is for the flap) 19-1/4 inches wide and about 10 inches long. The length of this piece determines how far the flap will overlap onto the front of the bag. (Eight inches would be about as short as the flap could be and still cover the top when the bag is filled with supplies.)
- 4). Bring the pair of shoelaces with you.

C. For 36-inch material:

- 1). Straighten one cut edge of the material.
- 2). Cut one piece 19-1/4 inches wide and 48 inches long. Leave the selvage on the one side of the strip.

- 3). Cut one strip (this is for the flap) 19 1/4 inches wide and 10 inches long. The length of this piece determines how far the flap will overlap onto the front of the bag.

- 4). Bring a pair of shoelaces with you.

Instructions for wheelchair bag using 45-inch material:

1. Fold selvage edge to wrong side of fabric. Press.
2. Fold fabric (right sides together) and pin edges.
3. Stitch with 5/8 inch seam, backstitch at beginning and end of stitching.
4. Zigzag in seam allowance next to stitching line.
5. Trim seam allowance close to zigzag. Press.
6. Turn to right side and press.

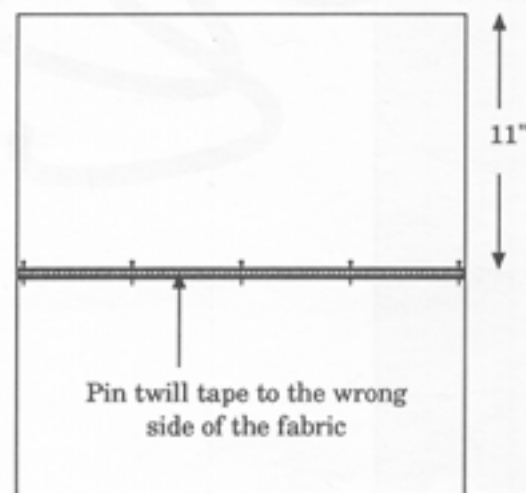
7. Prepare flap:

- A. Press sides under 5/8 inch (10 inch length = sides).
- B. Open and press edge to pressed crease line. Press.
- C. Pin hem on each side.
- D. Stitch each side hem.
- E. Press one 19 1/4 inch width of flap under 5/8 inch.
- F. Open, turn edge under to pressed crease.
- G. Press. Fold over and pin. Trim excess fabric from sides of ends of flap.
- H. Stitch.

8. Place flap on bag:
 - A. Place raw edge of flap even with hemmed edge of bag (right side of flap against right side of bag).
 - B. Pin in place.
9. Stitch along edge of hem around top of bag. You will sew the flap on at the same time as you stitch the hem.
10. Fold the flap up and stitch along top edge of hem to secure the flap.
11. Attach the shoelaces:
 - A. Fold shoelace in half.
 - B. Pin center of shoelace to the bag at each side, even with the twill tape.
 - C. Zigzag with stitch length at zero. Zigzag in three positions, close together. This gives strength to the attachment of the shoelaces.
12. Press.

Instructions for wheelchair bag using 60-inch material:

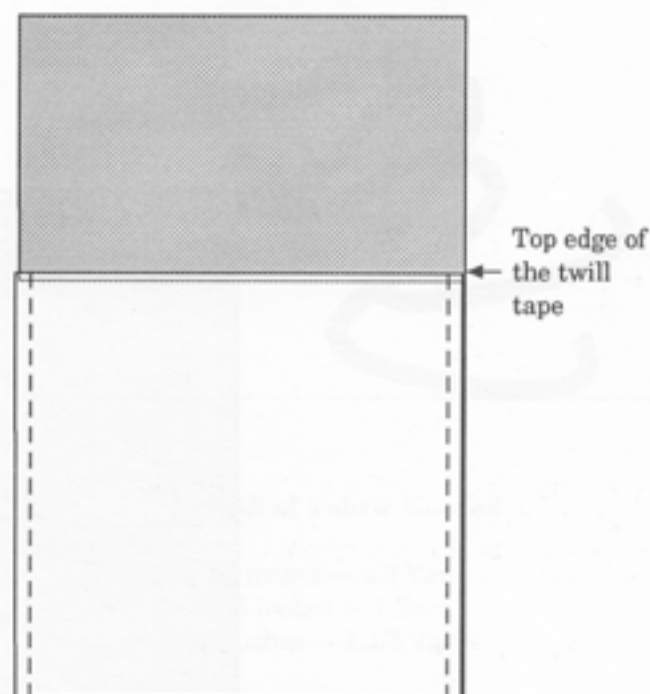
1. On wrong side of fabric, measure down 11 inches from the selvage at both cut edges. Put a pin in the material to mark the place.
2. Take the pre-washed cotton twill tape and pin to the wrong side of the fabric. Use the pins to guide placement of the tape. Pin in place using three more pins.



3. Press hem at selvage farthest from the twill tape.
 - A. Turn up 5/8 inch (using a hem gauge) and pin in place.
 - B. Press.
 - C. Open pressed 5/8-inch selvage. Fold selvage edge to ironed crease and press folded edge.
 - D. Now fold at first crease and you have the folded hem ready for stitching. You may want to place some pins in it to hold it (or you could use a glue stick applied to the fabric to hold it in place while you sew).

OR

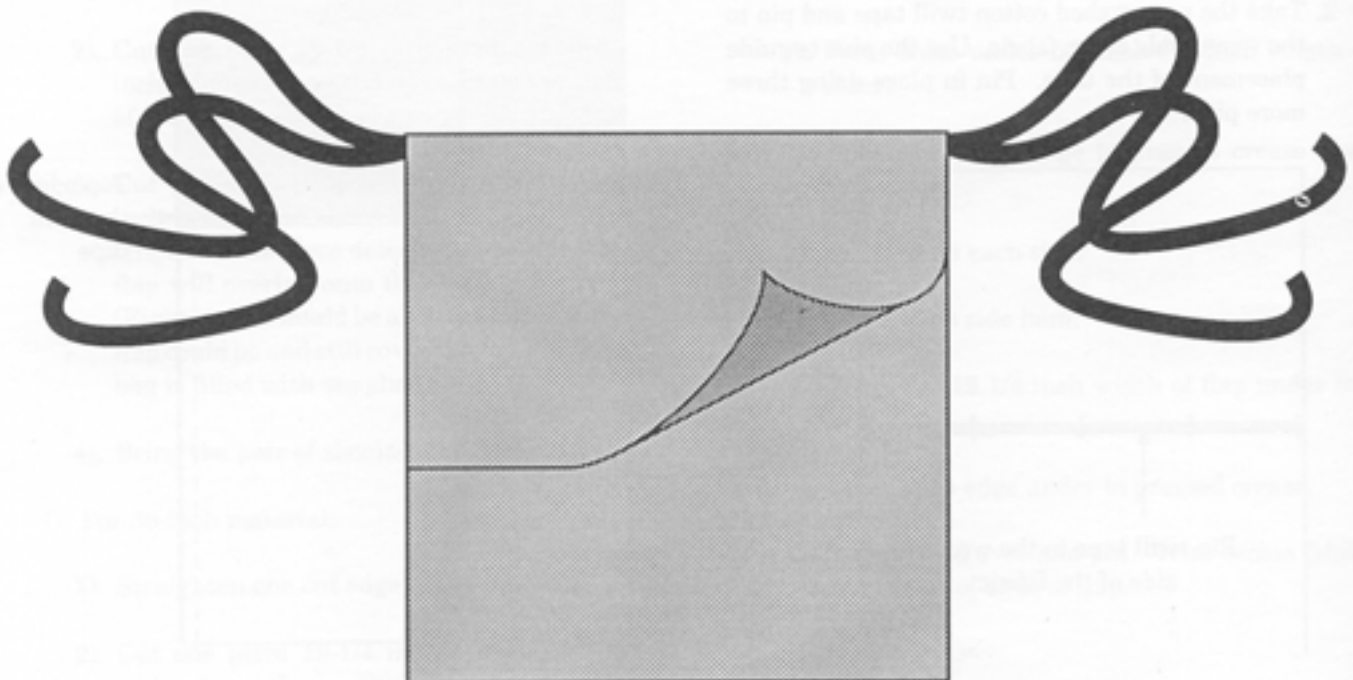
- E. Turn up the width of the selvage edge and press.
 - F. Turn up once more by the width of selvage and press.
 - G. Pin at intervals.
 - H. Stitch. (There is no need to backstitch.)
4. Stitch twill tape in place using a zigzag stitch.
 5. Fold the hemmed edge (right sides together) up even with the top edge of the twill tape.

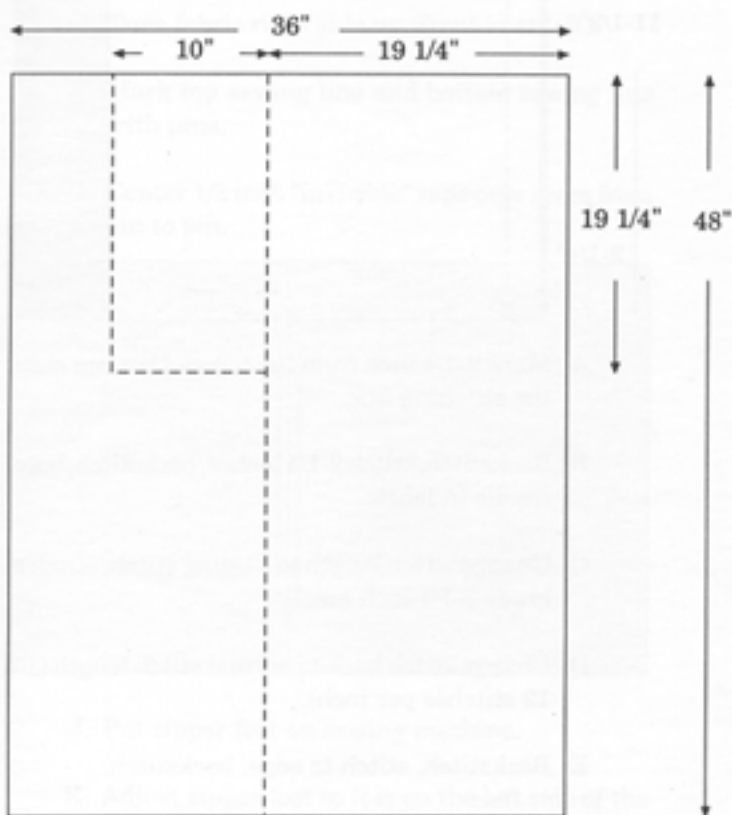
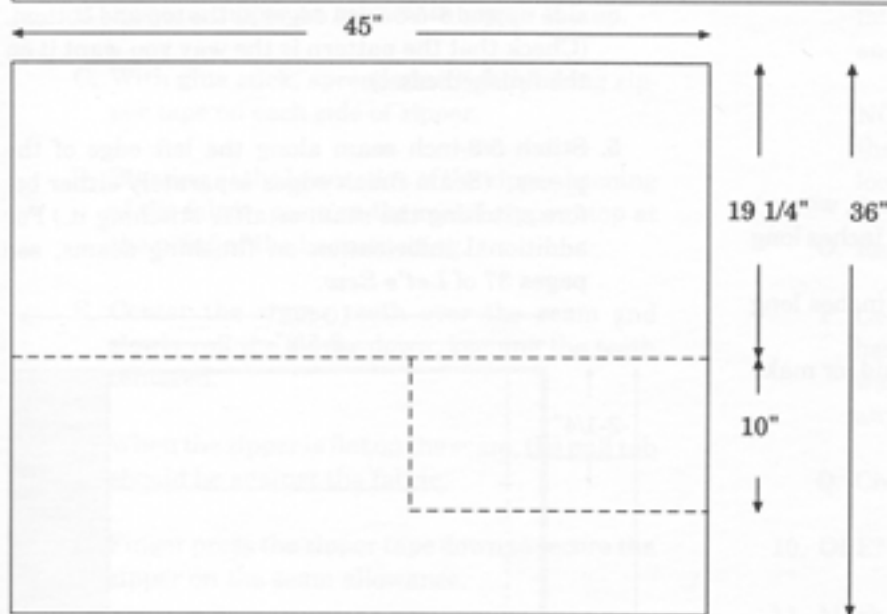
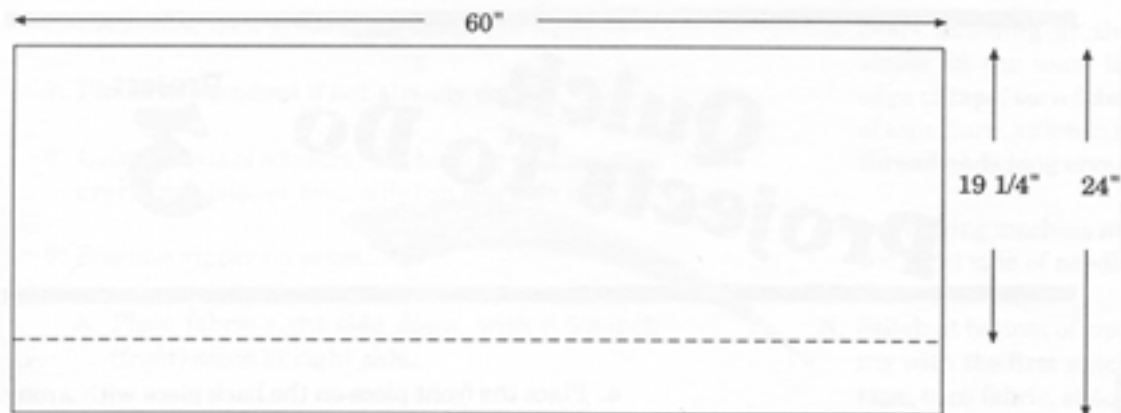


6. Pin at intervals along the edges.
7. Stitch 5/8-inch seam on each edge.
 - A. Start stitching at bottom fold, backstitch and stitch to the end of the hemmed edge, backstitch, then stitch to other edge with 5/8-inch seam (single layer of fabric).
 - B. Turn fabric over and stitch the other side to the hemmed edge, backstitch, then stitch to other edge with 5/8-inch seam.
8. Seam finishes:
 - A. Zigzag close to straight stitching on the seam allowance side with both seam allowances together. This will give the bag more strength and keep the seams from fraying. Zigzag from bottom of bag to even with the twill tape. Backstitch.
 - B. Repeat on other side.
 - C. Trim next to zigzag. Leave full selvage above twill tape (flap section). Remember to trim corners at an angle to make them easier to turn.
 - D. Press on wrong side.
 - E. Turn to right side and press seams.
9. Turn under sides of flap.
 - A. Turn edge to wrong side of fabric, even with stitching line and press.
 - B. Turn once more so stitching is at the edge of the flap. Press and pin.
 - C. Stitch from twill tape to edge on both sides.
10. Turn under the edge of flap by the width of the selvage. Press. Stitch, backstitching at each edge.
11. Attach shoelaces:
 - A. Fold lace in half.
 - B. Pin center of lace to the bag at each side, even with the twill tape.
 - C. Zigzag with stitch length at zero. Zigzag in three positions, close together. This gives strength to the attachment of the laces.
12. Press the bag.

You have successfully completed a wheelchair bag!

Brenda Warren
 State 4-H Clothing Construction
 Advisory Committee





Cutting Material for Wheelchair Bag

These sizes include seam allowances.

Length of Fabric Needed

60 inches — 2/3 Yard

45 inches — 1 Yard

36 inches — 1-1/3 Yards