



Make It at Home

Musette

This Musette is a great little project for yourself or your family to do over the Christmas break. It is designed to be made at home with any fabrics you have lying around your house, it may be an old shirt, cushion cover or jacket, anything will do! Medium fabric weight is best for this project to last for durability however once you have made your first musette, you will be able to make many more for years to come. For the attachment of your bag, you can raid your sewing kit (or your mums if she lets you) and really use whatever there is lying around and get creative with it.

Notes

- Seam allowance on all fabric pieces is 1cm, this is already calculated into your pattern pieces.
- In this guide we have shown you two versions of how to make the bag out of certain materials you have lying around.
- A mince pie and a glass of Baileys is recommended

Things you'll need

-  Sewing Machine and Thread - Straight stitch with the option of a zig zag stitch
-  Fabric - Medium weight fabric is great for this!
Fabric for the body of the bag needs to be atleast 40cm by 62cm or 2x pieces of fabric which are 40cm by 32cm
You could use your favourite old shirt or cushion cover.
-  Bag strap Option 1 - Self fabric 2 x pieces of fabric 5cm wide, 100cm long
-  Bag Strap Option 2 - Webbing / Ribbon - 2-3 cm width, 100cm long
-  Bag closure options, only one option is needed
 - Loop and hook velcro around 15cm long
 - Button
 - Cord ties
-  Scissors
-  Pins
-  Tailors chalk / Pencil
-  Iron
-  Ruler

Step 1

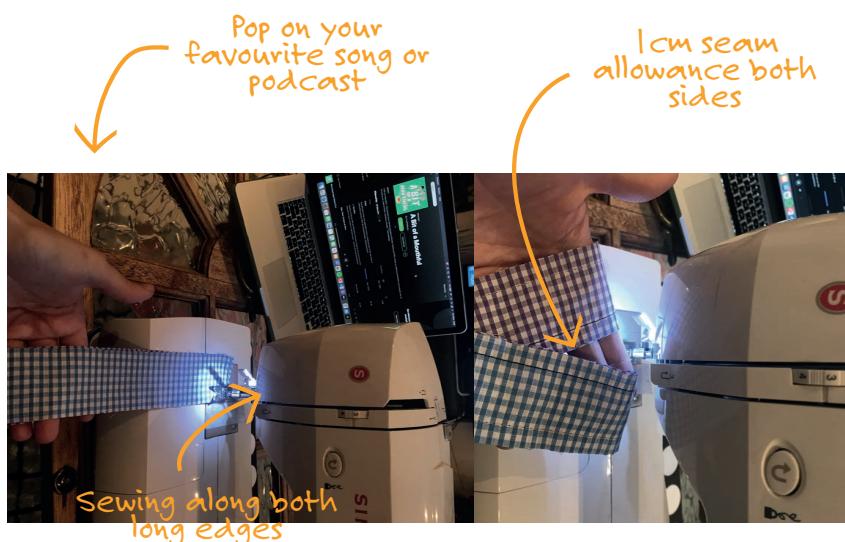
Lay out your chosen fabric and using your ruler draw and cut out a rectangle 40cm wide by 62cm Long. If your fabric is not long or wide enough you can seam together two pieces of fabric which are 40cm by 32cm to achieve this.



Step 2

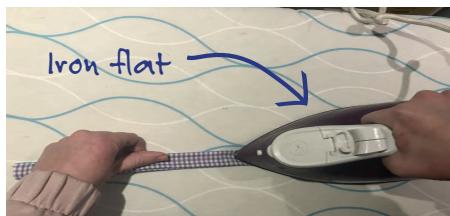
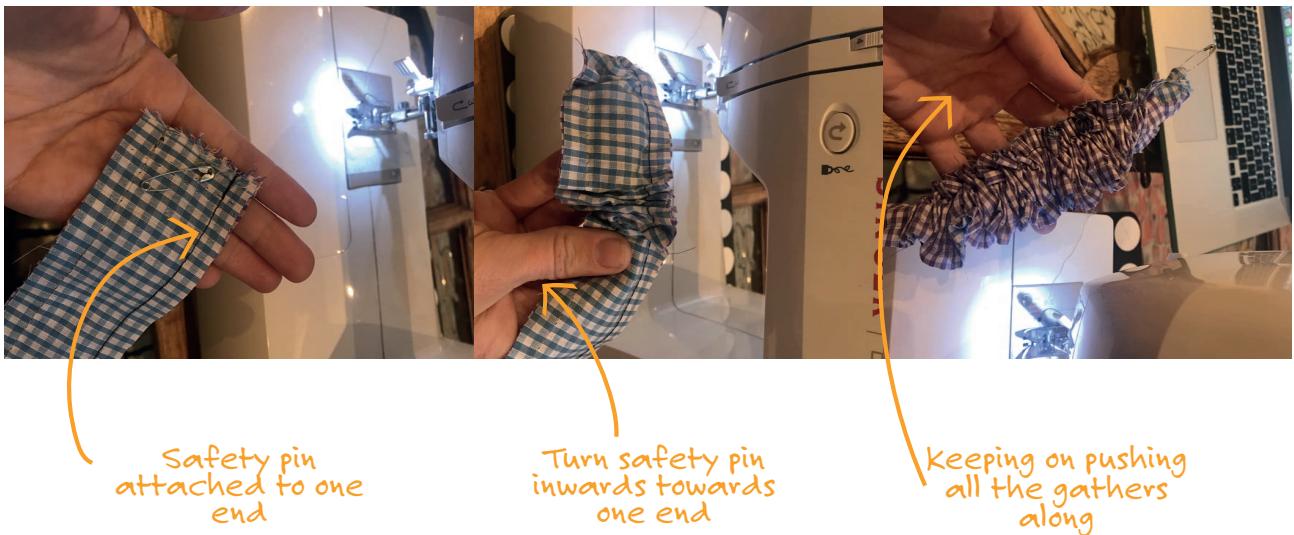
Now its time to decide on your bag strap, if you are using webbing or ribbon you will need to cut it to 100cm long. Depending if you are slightly shorter or taller than average, you can adjust this length to whatever you like ensuring it is long enough to wrap around your body.

If you have decided to make your bag strap out of fabric, pin your two strips of fabric, right sides together and sew along both long sides with a 1cm seam allowance.



Once sewn together you need to turn your strap inside out, this can be a bit fiddly but will certainly keep you warm during the Christmas period!

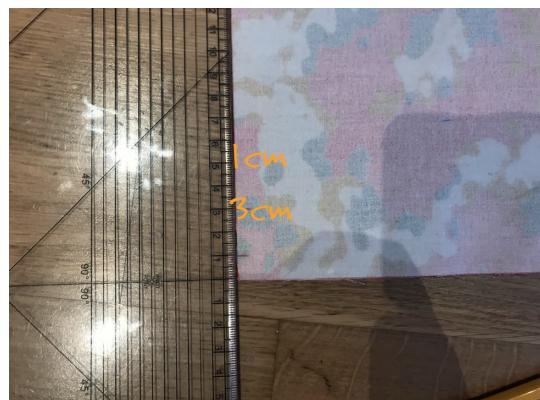
To help you turn your strap the right way around you can attach a safety pin to one end of the tube and start pushing the safety pin through the inside of the fabric while keeping hold of it so it starts to gather. Once pushed the whole way through and the safety pin is now visible at the other end, gently keeping pulling and your tube will eventually be the right way around.



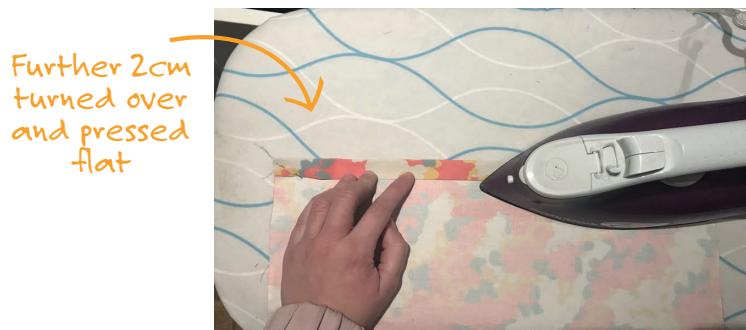
Depending on your fabric I would advise to give your strap a quick iron to ensure it is nice and flat for when attaching to your bag.

Step 3

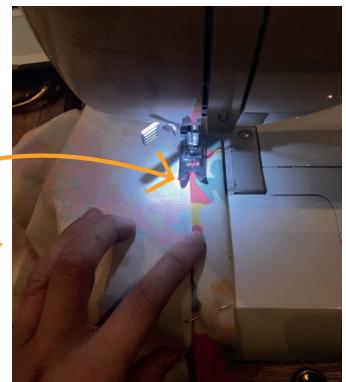
To ensure your bag is nicely finished at the opening, you are going to hem the two short edges of the fabric. Using your ruler, mark 3cm down from each end at the short side of your fabric, make sure to mark on the wrong side of your fabric in the 1cm seam allowance so you don't leave any marks.



Using an iron turn over 1cm to begin with and press flat, this means no raw edge will be visible at the opening. You can then turn over a further 2cm and iron flat again, to help you keep the hem flat you can use pins, however ensure not to iron over them as these can become very hot!



The top edge then needs to be sewn with a straight stitch along the edge of your folded hem to keep it flat. Once done, you will need to repeat this step on the other side of the fabric on the short end.



Step 4

Once both short ends of your piece of fabric have been turned and hemmed, flip your fabric over so the right side of the fabric is facing you. Now you can add your strap. The straps want to lay flat around your body when worn, so pin your strap flat to both sides of one end of your fabric about 2cm down from the top edge at a slight angle, so the ends of your strap is facing downwards at the seam.

Sew both ends of your strap with a straight stitch in the seam allowance and trim off the end so there is nothing overhanging.



Step 5

With the strap now attached, the sides of the bag can now be sewn together. Fold your piece of fabric long ways in half and pin along both sides down the raw fabric edges. Stitch along both edges with a straight stitch leaving a 1cm seam allowance.



To finish your edges nicely and to stop them from fraying, you can use a zig zag stitch to sew along the edges of your fabric of both sides and the bottom seam if you seamed your fabric pieces together. This will help to prevent your fabric from fraying further. You could also use some pinking shears or an overlocker to do this step.



Step 6

This step is optional as if you don't want a fastening to keep your bag closed, you can just turn your bag inside out at this stage and voila, it is finished.

However if you are like me and want to not risk losing your freshly baked goods or beers from your local shop when popping them into your musette, you can add a closure to keep them safe!

Velcro is a great and easy fastening you can sew onto the opening of the bag.

Otherwise some spare ribbon or cord you have is also a great alternative to sew on at the centre of both opening and can tie closed.



Step 7

All you have to do now is turn your bag the right way around.
Finish off that mince pie you were eating and go and show all off your friends
and family your new musette which was made by YOU!



Please show us your funky cycling Musette by tagging #WIZARDWORKSATHOME