

## Days for Girls Drawstring Bag Instructions

**NOTE: Quality Control is very important because a bag should last a girl 3 years and she uses it for many purposes. If you are unsure about the instructions, please refer to a sample bag and/or come to a DfG meeting!**

**Materials** – 12 inch x 30 inch pre-washed cotton fabric. Chose pretty fabrics, do not use fabrics with animals, eyes, human faces, camo, flags, guns, words, cartoons or pop glam). Fabrics should be less than 50% light or white colors. 100% polyester thread (this thread is more durable than cotton thread). 2 pieces ½” or 5/8” wide grosgrain ribbon 40” long. Orange Days for Girls label. **Note:** The label and the ribbon drawstrings will be added later by the SCS Quilt Club Days for Girls Team.

1. **Cut** fabric into 12x30 inch rectangle. Serge around all 4 sides of the fabric. When serging (overlock stitch) trim off little to no fabric. There are pre-serged bags ready to sew in the Days for Girls cupboard in the quilt room.
2. **Fold** – Fold fabric in half right sides together (width is 12 inches).
3. **Mark Lines for Casing** – Mark a line for casing 2 ¾” from top of fabric (or fold and press casing line 2 ¾” from top).
4. **Mark end point for side seam** – Mark the side seam 1” below casing marking (or 3 ¾” from top of fabric).
5. **Side Seams** - Sew 3/8” side seams stopping **3 ¾” inches** from top edge at the end point mark (don’t forget to backstitch at beginning and end of seam).
6. **Press Side Seam Facing** - Press the side seams open, pressing seam allowance open all the way to the top edge and at least halfway down the side of the bag.
7. **Stitch Side Seam Facing** - Stitch the top of the seam allowance down by stitching down the center of the pressed open seam allowance. Stitch from the top, down to where the seam starts, pivot (U-Turn) at the mark and stitch across the seam backtacking 3 times, stitch up the seam allowance to the other top edge. This forms a facing at the top of the seams. Note: When the bag is finished the “U-Turn” should be 1” below the casing.
8. **Top Casing** – Fold the top edge down **1/4”** and press. Bring the folded edge down to meet the marked casing line (around 1 1/4”) and press. Sew 1/8” (edgestitch) along the edge of the casing (don’t forget to backstitch at beginning and end). There should be a space between the top of the side seam and the bottom of the casing for ease in opening the bag.
9. **Press** – Turn the bag right side out and press flat.
10. **Quality Checks for Gold Standard** – Trim any loose threads. Every seam is backtacked at start and finish. Finished size should be 11 ¼” wide by 13 ½” long for Gold Standard. Casing is 1 ¼” deep and stitched 1/8” from edge. Side seams end 1” below casing. **Fit for Purpose (Good Enough) Standard** – Finished width is 10 ½ to 12 inches. Finished length is 12 ½ to 14 inches. **We cannot use bags that do not meet these standards.**