

Days for Girls Drawstring Bag Instructions

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 by the SCS Quilt Club Days for Girls Team.

1. **Cut** fabric into 12x30 inch rectangle. Serge around all 4 sides of the fabric if serging (overlock stitch) trim off little to no fabric. If serging is not available you may zig-zag all 4 sides.. This is to make the bag more durable.
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 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 first 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 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** – 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. Bag may be 10 ½” to 12” wide and 12 ½” to 14” long for Fit for Purpose (Good Enough). Casing is 1 ¼” deep, seam end 1” below casing.

NOTE: Steps 7 and 8 will be completed by the SCSQC Days for Girls Team. You do not need to sew on the label or insert the ribbon.

11. **Sew label** – with orange thread sew on the Days for Girls label, centered on bag and 3 1/4” from top edge of bag.
12. **Insert Ribbon Into Casing** – thread one piece of ribbon through the entire casing and knot at the side. Thread the other piece of ribbon in the opposite direction so that the ends knot is at the *other* side. Add size tag before knotting. The bag should draw close when you pull both ribbons.

Helpful Tools

Plastic Drawstring Threader – I.e. Dritz Clip ‘N Turn (available at JoAnns)

Wholesale Grosgrain Ribbon – Gifts International <http://www.giftsintl-us.com/products.php?cat=48> i.e. \$1.89 for a 50 yard roll

Days for Girls Labels – <https://www.daysforgirls.org/the-resources-shop> set of 25 for \$1.25. Note: The labels are important so that the girls know they have a Days for Girls kit and not an inferior knock-off.