

# How To Make A Drawstring Bag

## HOW TO SEW DRAWSTRING BAG IN 10 MINUTES



**How to make a drawstring bag** is a rewarding project that combines functionality with creativity. Whether you need a simple bag for gym clothes, a stylish accessory for outings, or a practical way to organize your belongings, a drawstring bag is the perfect solution. In this article, we will explore the materials needed, the steps to create your own drawstring bag, and some tips to personalize your project.

# Materials Needed

Before you begin your project, gather the following materials:

- Fabric: Choose a sturdy fabric like cotton, canvas, or denim. You will need two pieces of fabric, each measuring about 15 inches by 18 inches, depending on your desired size.
- Drawstring: You can use a cord, ribbon, or shoelace. The length should be about 60 inches.
- Sewing machine: A basic sewing machine will work, but you can also sew by hand if you prefer.
- Thread: Use a color that matches or contrasts with your fabric.
- Scissors: For cutting the fabric.
- Measuring tape: To ensure accurate measurements.
- Pins: To hold the fabric in place while sewing.
- Iron: For smoothing out fabric and seams.
- Safety pin: This will help you thread the drawstring through the casing.

# Step-by-Step Instructions

Creating a drawstring bag is a straightforward process. Follow these steps to craft your own:

## Step 1: Prepare Your Fabric

1. Cut the Fabric: Measure and cut two pieces of fabric, each measuring 15 inches by 18 inches or your preferred size.
2. Iron the Fabric: Iron both pieces of fabric to remove any wrinkles. This will help you achieve clean seams.

## Step 2: Sew the Bag Body

1. Align the Fabrics: Place the two fabric pieces together, right sides facing each other.
2. Pin the Sides: Pin along the sides and bottom of the bag, leaving the top open.
3. Sew the Sides: Using a sewing machine, sew along the pinned edges with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam allowance. Backstitch at the beginning and end to secure your stitches.
4. Trim the Corners: Carefully trim the corners to reduce bulk, but avoid cutting into the stitches.
5. Turn the Bag: Turn the bag right side out through the open top. Use a pencil or a turning tool to push out the corners for a neater finish.

## Step 3: Create the Casing

1. **Fold Down the Top Edge:** Fold the top edge of the bag down about 1 inch. This will create a casing for the drawstring.
2. **Pin and Sew the Casing:** Pin the fold in place and sew around the edge, leaving a small opening (about 2 inches) on one side. This opening will allow you to insert the drawstring later.

## Step 4: Insert the Drawstring

1. **Attach the Safety Pin:** Attach a safety pin to one end of the drawstring or cord. This will help you thread it through the casing.
2. **Thread the Drawstring:** Insert the safety pin into the opening of the casing and push it through the fabric. Continue guiding the pin until you reach the other side of the opening.
3. **Remove the Safety Pin:** Once the drawstring is threaded through the casing, remove the safety pin.
4. **Adjust and Tie:** Pull the ends of the drawstring to gather the fabric at the top. Tie a knot at each end of the drawstring to prevent it from slipping back through the casing.

## Personalizing Your Drawstring Bag

One of the best parts of making a drawstring bag is the opportunity to personalize it. Here are some ideas to make your bag unique:

### Add Embellishments

- **Fabric Paint:** Use fabric paint to create designs, patterns, or even your name on the bag.
- **Appliqué:** Sew or iron on patches or shapes made from different fabrics for a textured look.
- **Embroidery:** Hand-embroider a design or initials to add a personal touch.

### Choose Unique Fabrics

Select fabrics with bold patterns or colors that reflect your personality. You can mix and match different fabrics for the front and back of the bag for a fun contrast.

### Use Different Types of Drawstrings

Experiment with different materials for the drawstring, such as:

- Braided cords: For a more textured look.
- Ribbons: For a delicate, feminine touch.
- Elastic: If you want a stretchy, easy-to-use option.

## **Tips for Success**

Here are some additional tips to ensure your drawstring bag turns out well:

- Use Quality Fabric: A sturdy fabric will help your bag last longer, especially if you plan to use it for heavy items.
- Double-Check Measurements: Always measure accurately to ensure your bag is the desired size.
- Practice Sewing Techniques: If you're new to sewing, consider practicing on scrap fabric before starting your bag.
- Take Your Time: Don't rush through the process. Enjoy the creative journey!

## **Conclusion**

Making a drawstring bag is a fun and practical project that can be completed in just a few hours. With a few simple materials and steps, you can create a stylish and functional accessory tailored to your needs. Whether you keep it simple or personalize it with embellishments, your handmade drawstring bag will be a reflection of your creativity and style. So gather your materials, follow the steps, and enjoy the satisfaction of carrying your unique bag wherever you go!

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What materials do I need to make a drawstring bag?**

You will need fabric (cotton or canvas), a drawstring cord or ribbon, scissors, a sewing machine or needle and thread, pins, and a measuring tape.

### **How do I measure the fabric for a drawstring bag?**

To measure the fabric, decide on the size of the bag you want. A common size is 14 inches wide by 16 inches tall. Cut two pieces of fabric to this size, adding an extra inch for seam allowances.

### **What is the sewing process for making a drawstring bag?**

First, pin the two fabric pieces together with the right sides facing each other. Sew around the edges, leaving the top open. Then, fold over the top edge to create a casing for the drawstring, sew it down, and leave a small gap to insert the cord.

### **How do I create the drawstring for my bag?**

Cut a length of cord or ribbon twice the width of the bag plus a few extra inches. Use a safety pin to help thread it through the casing you created at

the top of the bag. Once through, tie the ends together to form the drawstring.

## Can I customize my drawstring bag?

Yes! You can customize your drawstring bag by using different fabrics, adding pockets, or decorating it with fabric paint, patches, or embroidery for a personal touch.

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