

Help our doctors, nurses and health staff at the RUH by making draw string bags that we can fill with donated soap, shower gel, toothpaste, combs, small packs of wipes, lip salve, tissues packs (small), packets of razors, hand cream, deodorant, bottles water and healthy snack bars

These amazing people are working extremely long hours with very short comfort and rest breaks. After a day in sweaty personal protection equipment, they need to shower and wash thoroughly before leaving for home. These bags will go a little way to make their lives a bit easier.

Please make bags in materials suitable for both male and female staff.



If you wish to help and want to get involved with this project you can do so by either making bags (see page 2 onwards for instructions or use your own pattern) or by donating items listed above.

Donations of drawstring bags or toiletries can be dropped off to Keynsham Baptist Church on Mondays between 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. or Thursday between 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. or Community at 67.

From Wednesday, anyone wanting material lengths for making drawstring bags will be available on request. We will arrange delivery.

or if you need items collecting email keynshaminbloom@icloud.com or telephone 07399 612317 or 07470 679240

If you are on Facebook, join Keynsham in Bloom or the Keynsham Coronavirus COVID-19 Support Group for details on a lovely children's 'Grow A Salad' planting activity that we are setting up.

Materials & instructions for drawstring bags: THESE CAN BE MADE WITH OR WITHOUT LINING

- + 2 pieces fabric (1" x 24" –or 2.5 cm x 60 cm) - these will be the drawstrings, *or* you can use ribbon or drawstring-type material
- + 2 pieces fabric (3" x 10" or 7.5 cm x 25 cm) - these will be the top pieces of the bag that the drawstring goes through (the polka dot fabric see below)
- + 1 piece fabric (10" x 16" or 25 cm x 40 cm) - this is the patterned fabric you see the majority of on the bag
- + 1 piece lining fabric (10" x 22" or 25 cm x 55 cm) - use muslin or some other lightweight fabric
- + Scissors
- + Safety Pin (if you are making your own drawstrings)
- + Sewing machine, coordinating thread
- + Iron



Start by making the drawstrings (skip this step if you are using ribbon or cord). Fold the 1" x 24" or 2.5 cm X 60 cm strips in half, so the wrong side is out. Carefully press with an iron.



Sew along the open edge, as close to the edge as possible. To flip the drawstrings right-side-out, use a safety pin and this method. Tie off each edge into a knot.



Now, pin the 2 pieces of 3" x 10" or 7.5 cm x 25 cm to the large 10" x 16" or 25 c.m. x 40 cm piece, right sides facing each other. (see picture below).



With a 1/4" or 60 mm seam allowance, sew up each long (10" or 25 cm) side and then press seams open with an iron



Now, place the lining fabric piece on the newly stitched outside piece - right sides facing out. Fold the long edge in 1/4" or 6 mm and press with an iron. Repeat for the opposite long edge. Now fold the already folded edge in again 1/4" or 6mm. This will give the insides a more finished and clean-cut look - no rough edges.



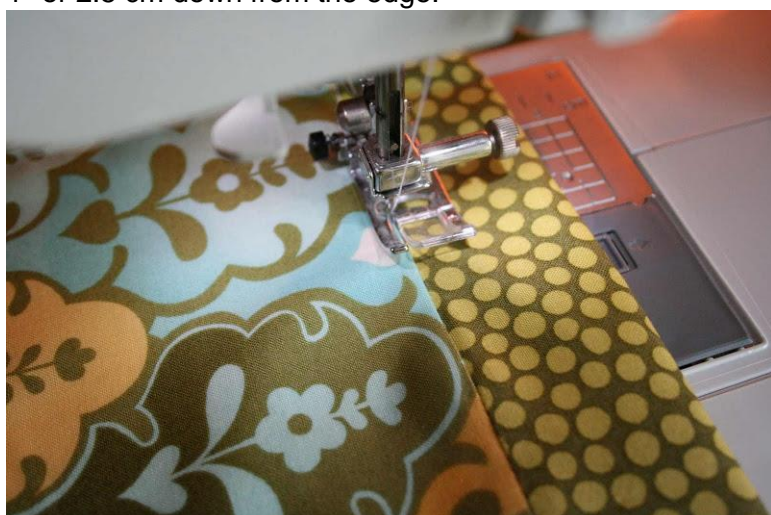
Stitch along these folded edges.



For the short edge, fold it over once 1/4" or 6 mm. Press with the iron and stitch a straight stitch with 1/4" or 6 mm seam allowance.

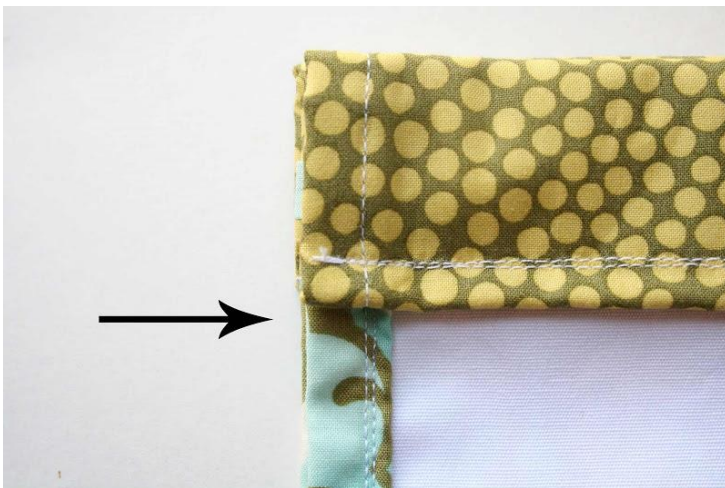


Now, fold over these short edges about 1.25" or 3 cm, press with the iron and stitch a straight stitch about 1" or 2.5 cm down from the edge.





Almost finished! Fold the bag in half with right sides facing in, wrong sides facing out. From the bottom of the bag, stitch a straight stitch up each side. Be sure to stop before getting to the drawstring "pocket" - see arrow in the picture below. You don't want to stitch the drawstring opening closed!



Attach one side of the drawstring to a dull pencil or a pen and thread through one "pocket". Untie and tie the other side of the drawstring to the pencil and pull it through the other "pocket".



Now, in order to get the drawstring effect, do the same as above to the other drawstring, except thread these ends through the other side of the openings of the "pockets" on the bag. See picture below- one drawstring is coming out one side and the other is laying on top of the bag as a visual- this is how it should be threaded through the "pockets".



Snip off any excess drawstring - to whatever length you desire. You can also tie each end together or leave them open.



Voilà! A fabulous drawstring bag!



Thank you.