

Sew a Dice Bag



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This drawstring bag is fully lined and features 4 interior pockets. It is composed of 4 exterior side panels, 4 interior side panels, 2 interior pocket panels and 2 top edge panels for the drawstring.

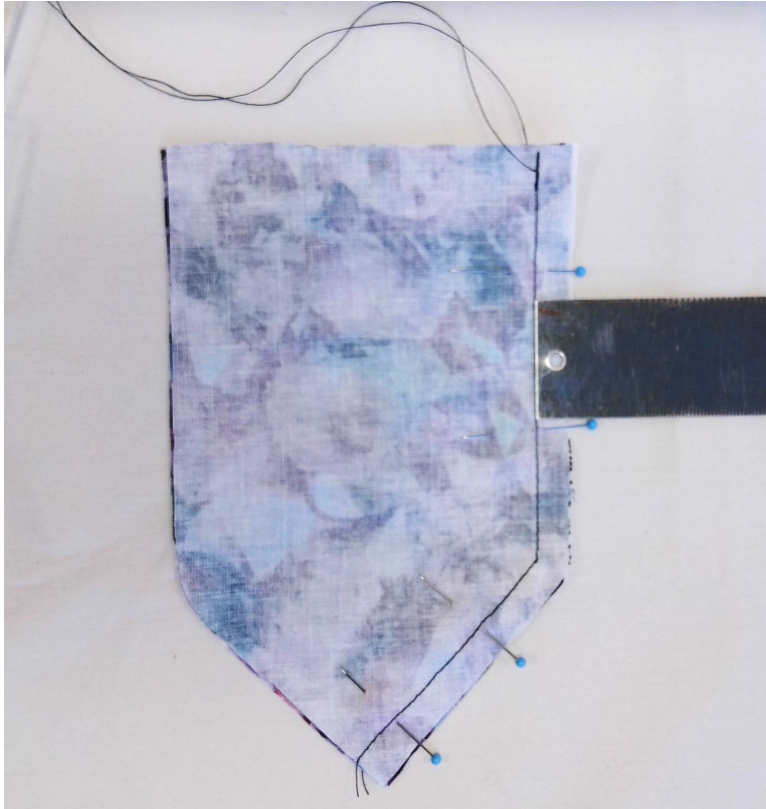


Step 1: Pair up the side panels



Pair up the side panel pieces with the nice (colorful) sides of the fabric facing each other and pin together as shown.

Step 2: Sew the paired panels together



Sew down the side edge, using a 3/8th inch seam allowance. You can use the guide on the machine or mark the line with a pencil. When you reach the corner, turn and continue down the diagonal lower edge. *Leave the opposite edge unstitched.

**Repeat for each pair of panels.

Each pair will form half of the inner or outer layer.

Step 3. Pin the pocket in place



Fold the pocket in half and place it inside one the internal side pairs. Make sure the edges stick out past the edge of the side panels. Pin it in place. Make sure there it at least 1 inch of the side panel showing above the edge of the pocket panel.

Step 4. Sew the pocket in place



First, sew down the center line shown by the red line.



Second, sew along the bottom edge of the pocket panel, shown by the red line.

Step 5. Check the seams



The seam edge will be sewn down. Remove the pins.



Check that the bottom pocket edges are sewn down.

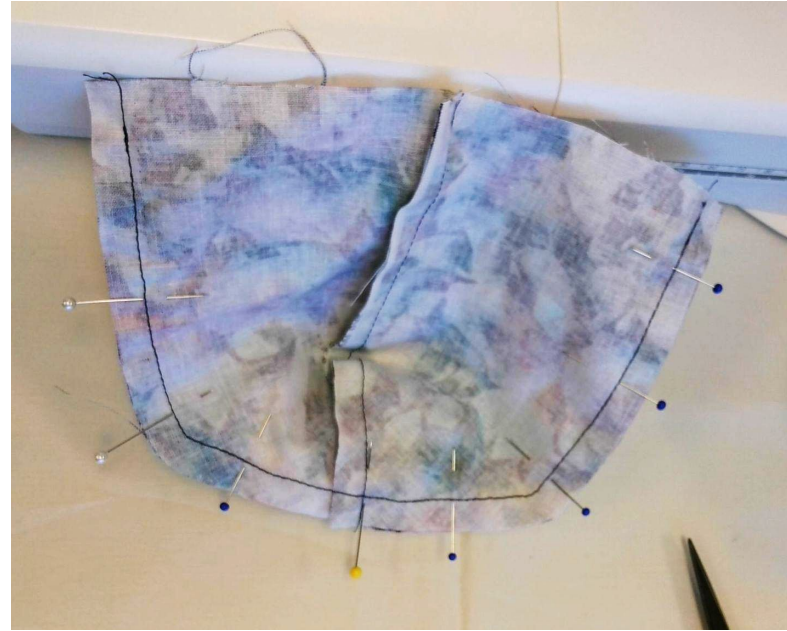
REPEAT for the second half.

Step 6. Align the pairs of side panels and pin



Take two matching pairs of panels and place them together with the nice sides of the fabric facing each other. Pin the edges in place along the side and bottom edges. Repeat for the second set of panels.

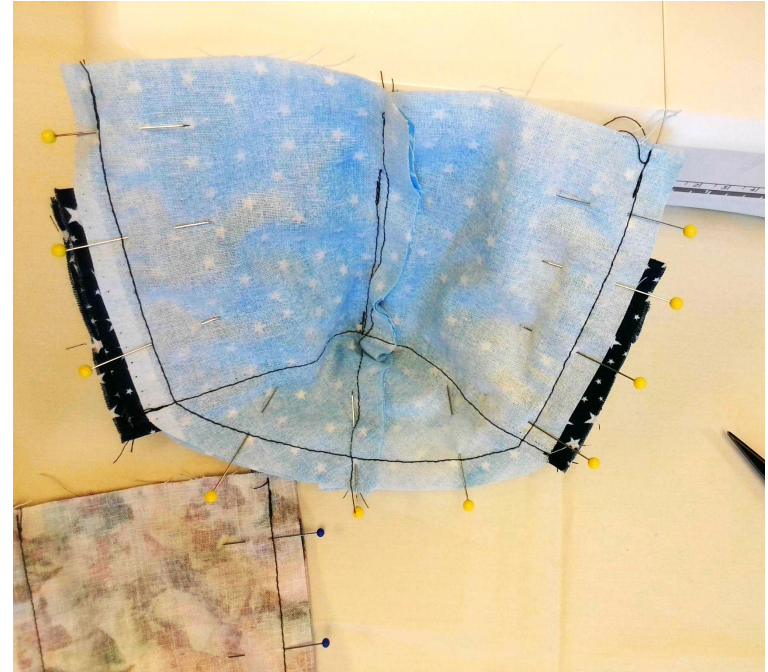
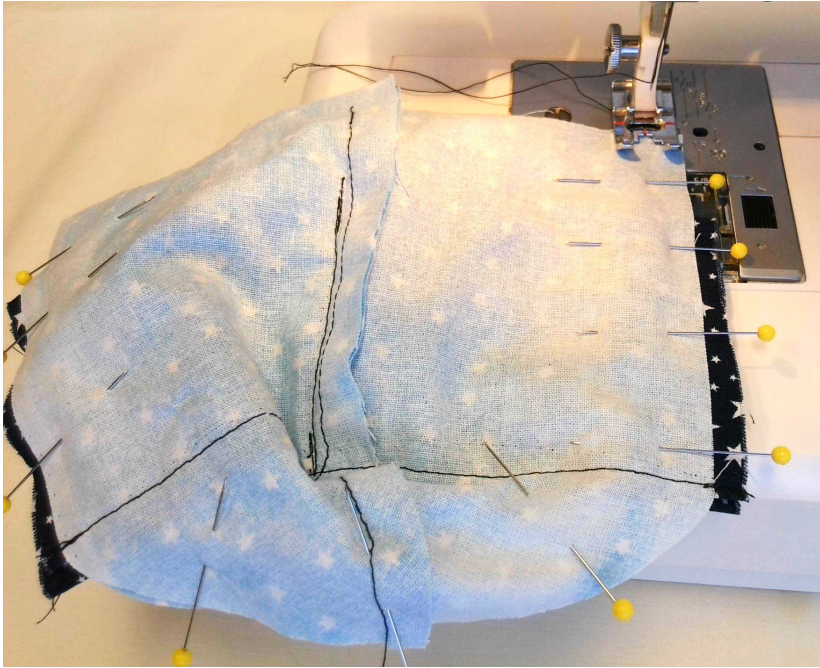
Step 6. Sew the two outer halves together



Take the two outside pairs of panels (the ones without the pockets) and sew from the top right edge, down the side, across the bottom and up around to the other top edge. Leave the top edge open.

*Use a 3/8th edge inseam.

Step 7. Sew the two inner halves together



Take the two inside pairs of panels (the ones WITH the pockets) and sew from the top right edge, down the side, across the bottom and up around to the other top edge. Leave the top edge open.

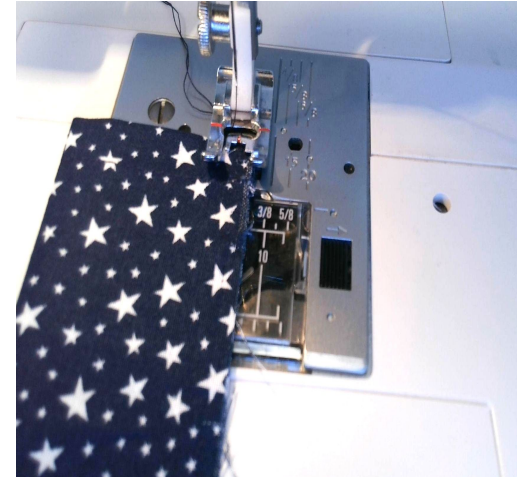
*Use a 3/8th edge inseam.

Step 8. Trim the excess pocket edge



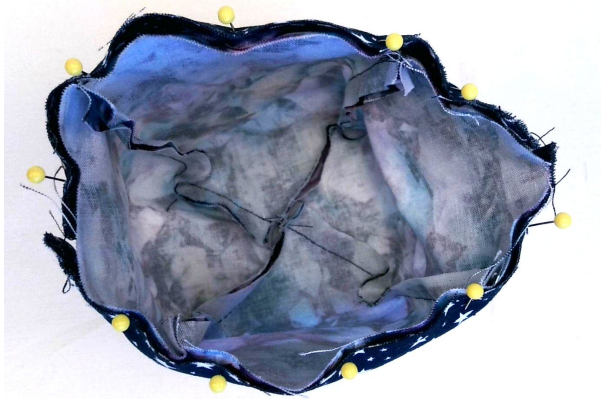
If you have pocket fabric that sticks out beyond the edge of the side panels, you can trim it off. Although this step is not necessary, it will help the fabric lay better once the bag is turned.

Step 9. Prepare the top edge flap



Fold the short edge over $\frac{1}{2}$ " and sew down with a similar thread color. Then fold in half lengthwise and sew along open edge. Repeat for both flaps.

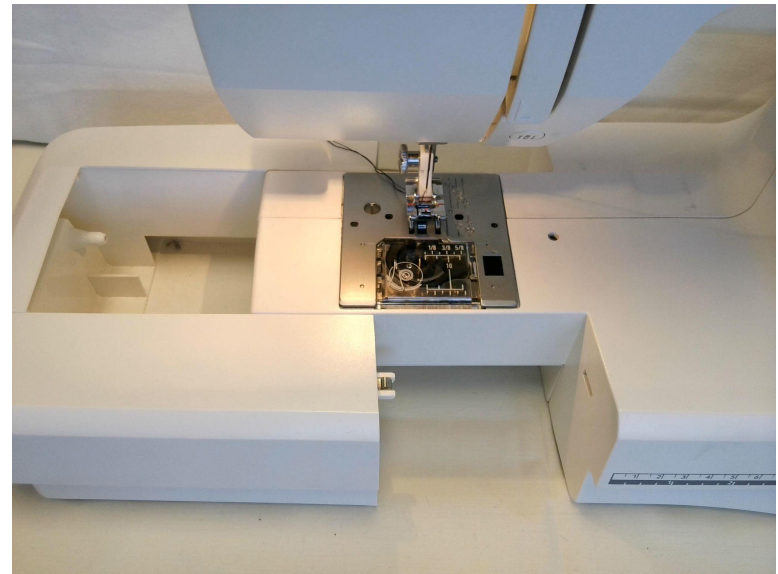
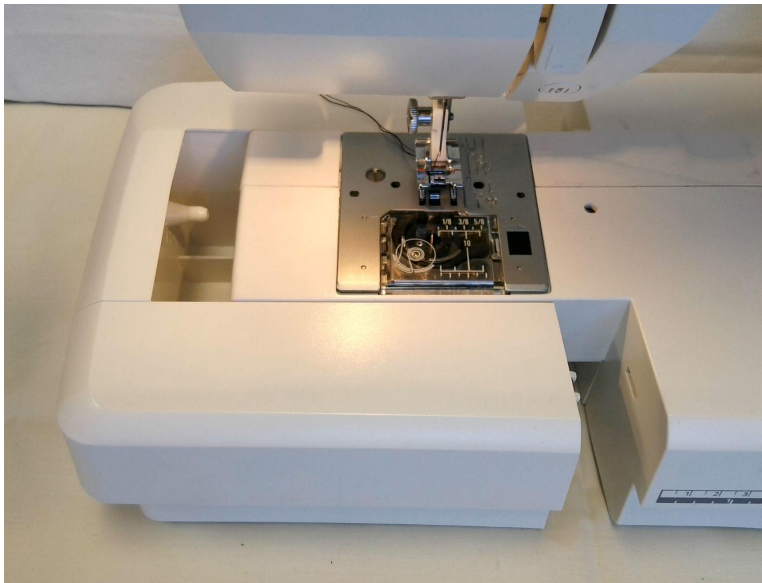
Step 10. Pin the flaps onto the outer edge



With the raw edges together, pin the flaps onto the bag, making sure that the ends are centered on a side panel.

Step 11. Prepare the machine

The next two steps will require that we remove part of the sewing machine. The flat “table” slides to the left and comes off. This will allow us to sew around the top edge in a complete circle.

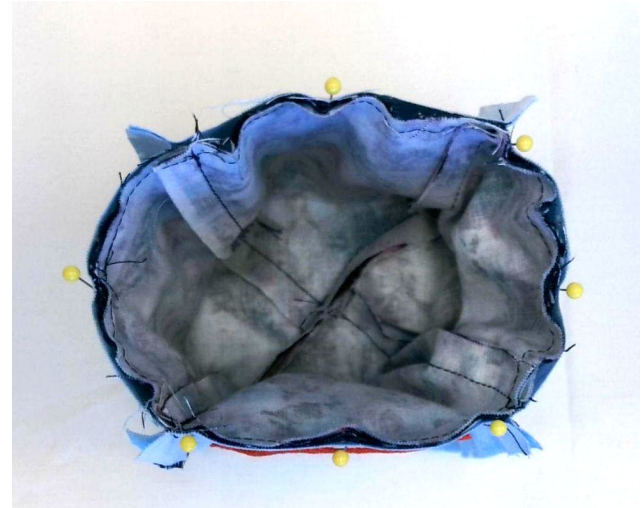
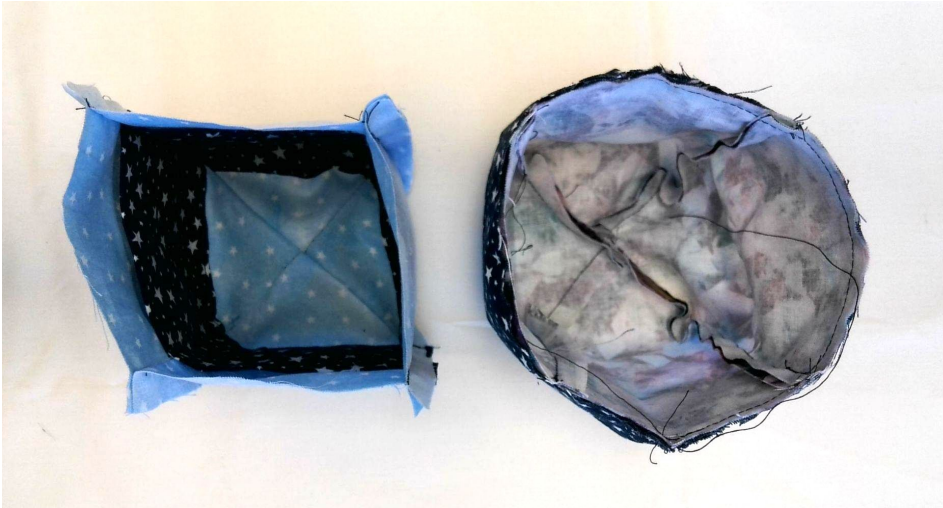


Step 12. Sew the drawstring flaps on.



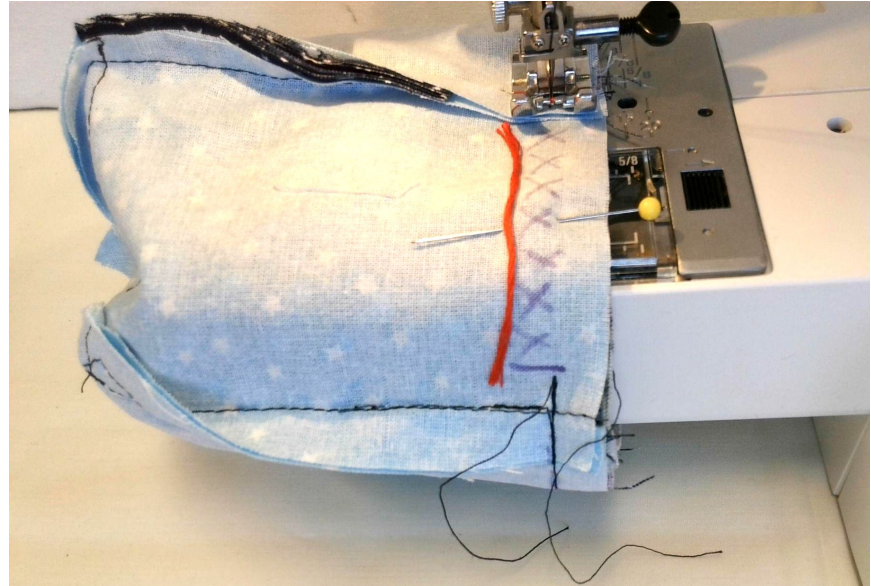
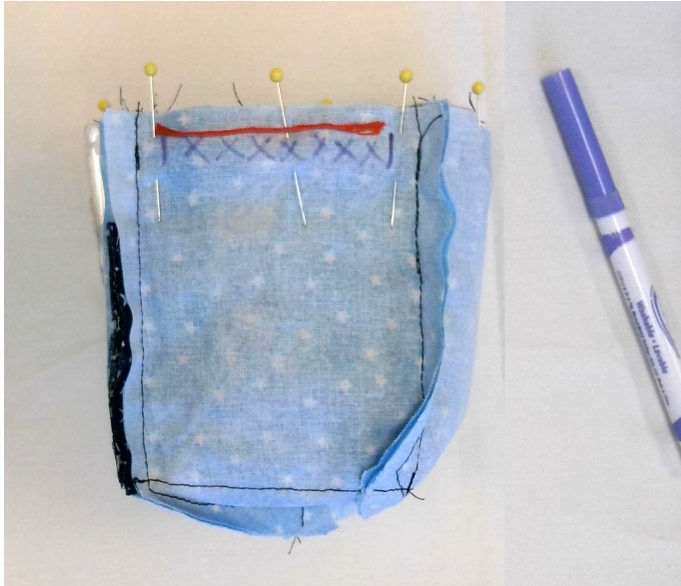
Slide the outer layer of the bag onto the arm of the sewing machine. Position the raw edge inside the the presser foot ($\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance) and sew all the way around. Remove the pins.

Step 13. Assemble the bag



The inside layer with the pockets should be turned the correct way, as pictured above. The outside layer should be turned the correct way, with the flap folded out and down. Slide the outside layer into the inside layer. The nice sides of the fabric will be facing each other. The flap should be between the two layers and no longer visible. Pin the top edges together.

Step 14. Get ready to sew



We need to leave most of one side open to turn the bag. Starting just before a seam, sew around the top edge and stop just after sewing the seam on the side you started on. I marked the opening with a washable marker and also laid a red string across it to make sure that I did not sew it shut.

Step 15. Turn the bag



Slide your fingers into the opening at the top edge and carefully turn everything inside out. Then push the inside down into the outer layer. There will be a small opening that needs to be sewn shut.

Step 16. Pin and sew shut the opening



Pin and sew the opening shut. If you don't want to see the thread, make sure to use a matching color thread.

Step 17. Sew the drawstring channel

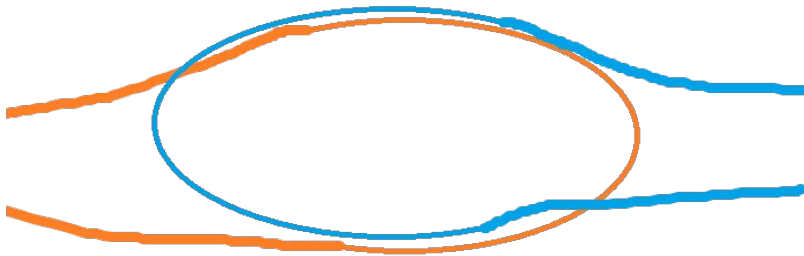


The Final sewing step is to create the channel for the drawstring. Right now it is quite large. Sew around the flap about $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the way up the flap, depending on preference. *Make sure to sew forward and backwards at the the edge of each flap to ensure that the stitching doesn't loosen during use.

18. Add the drawstring and any beads



Using a long hook, such as a tunesian crochet hook, pull the drawstrings through the bag. The two string should overlap in opposite directions, so that when the loose edges are pulled, it closes the bag.



Add any beads and knot the loose ends together so that the string does not pull out.