



MATERIALS

Coats & Clark™ Dual Duty XP® All-purpose Thread

1¼ yds (1m) main fabric, for outer bucket and lining
 1¾ yds (1.6m) ripstop nylon, 60" (152.5cm), for play mat
 ⅝ yd (57cm) contrast ripstop nylon, 60" (152.5cm), for play mat casing
 ⅞ yd (80cm) single-sided fusible foam, 58" (147.5cm)
 ½ yd (46cm) polyester or nylon webbing, 1" (2.5cm), for handles
 6 yds (5.5m) small cording, for drawstring
 ½ yd (46cm) hook-and-loop fastener tape, ½" (1cm)
 (2) cord locks
 Large safety pin or bodkin



SEWING, FABRIC CRAFTING | SKILL LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

Featuring Coats & Clark™ Dual Duty XP® All-purpose Thread

Keeping small toys stowed is always a challenge, but with this handy lidded bucket and drawstring playmat, it's a cinch! The detachable mat makes a great play surface and when play is done, simply pull up the cords and dump the toys into the bucket—no mess, no fuss.

MEASUREMENTS

11" (28cm) diameter (bucket);
 60" (152.5cm) diameter (mat)

CUTTING

From the main fabric, cut:

(2) circles, 11½" (29cm), for bucket bottom
 (2) circles, 12" (30.5cm), for lid
 (2) strips, 11½" x 35" (29cm x 89cm), for bucket sides
 (1) strip, 5½" x 36⅝" (14cm x 93cm), for lid edge
 (1) strip, 2¼" x 37" (6cm x 94cm), for lid binding

From the foam, cut:

(1) circle, 11½" (29cm), for bucket bottom
 (1) circle, 12" (30.5cm), for lid
 (1) strip, 11½" x 35" (29cm x 89cm), for bucket sides
 (1) strip, 2½" x 36 5/8" (6.5cm x 93cm), for lid edge

Seam allowances are ¼" (1cm).

PREPARATION

Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the foam to the bucket side and bucket bottom.

From the ripstop nylon, cut:

(1) circle, 58" (147.5cm) diameter

From the contrast ripstop nylon, cut:

(4) strips, 4½" x width of fabric (11.5cm x WOF)



ASSEMBLING THE OUTER BUCKET

1. Quarter-mark both the top and bottom edges of the bucket side rectangle.
2. Cut (2) 7" (18cm) sections of webbing and carefully sear the ends to prevent fraying. Use a small candle and quickly run the webbing ends through the flame to produce a bead. Turn under ½" (1cm) on each end.
3. Position the lower edge of the webbing 4" down from the bucket upper edge and the folded-under end 2¾" (7cm) from each side of the quarter mark. Note that the handle will not lie flat.
4. Stitch a box on each folded-under end.
5. Sew the short ends of the 11½" x 35" (29cm x 89cm) strip together. Press the seam open.
6. Quarter-mark the circle base, and the strip, starting at the seam. Matching the quarter marks, and with right sides together, sew the strip around the circle perimeter to make the bucket shape. Turn the bucket right side out.
7. Repeat Steps 1-2 using the same-size lining pieces, but use a ½" (1cm) seam since it has to fit inside the bucket shape. Leave a 6" (15cm) opening in the seam for turning.
8. Cut a 16" (41cm) piece of hook-and-loop tape. Center the loop portion over the seam 1½" (4cm) from the upper edge. Sew around the tape. Save the remaining portion of the hook tape for later use.
9. With right sides together, place the lining over the bucket and sew around the upper edge. Turn the bucket right side out through the lining opening, firmly press the upper edge and topstitch around the upper edge.
10. Hand- or machine stitch the lining opening closed.
11. Press the bucket being careful not to touch the webbing with the iron as it will melt.
2. Fuse the foam lid edge to the main fabric lid edge, aligning one long edge. Fold the strip in half encasing the foam and press.
3. Open out the lid edge and sew the short ends together. Refold and baste the cut edges together, encasing the foam.
4. Quarter-mark the lid circle and the edge band. Matching the quarter markings, sew the edge around the lid circle.
5. Press the binding strip in half with wrong sides together. Bind the lid seam, then fold the binding to the underside and hand-stitch in place over the previous stitching line.
1. Sew together two pairs of the 4½" x WOF (11cm x WOF). From each pair, cut a 93" (236cm) long strip centering it over the seamline.
2. Fold under a ½" (1cm) hem on each end of each strip and stitch. Fold each strip in half with wrong sides together to form a 2¼" (6cm) casing. Baste the raw edges together ⅛" (.5cm) from the edge.
3. On one folded casing, center the hook portion of the leftover hook-and-loop tape over the seam 1" (2.5cm) from the folded edge. Stitch around the hook tape to secure it to the casing. This becomes the wrong side of this casing.
4. With right sides together, sew the casings to the circle perimeter, noting that the ends should overlap about ½" (1cm) or slightly more depending on the accuracy of the seam allowance.

ASSEMBLING THE PLAY MAT

Note: Press ripstop very carefully with a low temperature iron setting and a press cloth, as it will melt easily. Finger-pressing is a better option. Ripstop is also very slippery and pin marks can be permanent, so pin only within the seam allowance.

ASSEMBLING THE LID

1. Fuse the lid circle to one main fabric circle wrong side. Back with the remaining circle and baste the perimeter.

FINISHING

1. Cut the cord into two 3-yard (3m) lengths. Using the safety pin, thread the cord through one casing and out the end. Repeat for the second casing, running the cord above the hook tape toward the casing fold.
2. Thread the extending cord ends through the cord locks and knot. If necessary, sear the cord ends to prevent fraying.
3. Adhere the hook tape portion to the loop tape inside the bucket rim. Note that the play mat is fully detachable and can be used alone or in conjunction with the bucket. To quickly clean up small toys, attach the mat to the bucket lining, pull up the drawstring and dump them into the bucket.

