

BEAD BAG PATTERN

Supplies needed: 100% cotton only (no flannel) for boys and girls, ages young to teens. .3 meter for outside bag .3 meter for inside bag (coordinating fabric) 1.3 meters Cording: narrow 100% polyester knit cord (avail @ Fabricland) "Beads of Courage" labels

OUTSIDE BAG:

Front side: Cut 1 piece of fabric 11" X 13 3/4"

Back Side: Cut 1 piece of fabric 11" X 13 3/4" same as front side fabric or coordinating fabric to the front.

To assemble: On "front" outer bag piece stitch "Beads of Courage" label on using blanket stitch. Place ~ 2" in from right side seam and 3 1/2 " up from bottom of bag.

With **RIGHT** sides together stitch 2 pieces (front and back) together using a 3/8" seam allowance. **On the wrong side of the front fabric, draw a line across the width of the fabric 1 3/4" down from the top. Draw a second line across the width of the fabric 2 1/2" from the top. Backstitch or stay stitch at the end of the 1 3/4" marked seam and the beginning of the 2 1/2" marked seam. This opening is where the drawstring will pass through and needs to be reinforced.** Staystitch or backstitch beginning and end of the side seam.

Press side seams open.

INSIDE BAG (lining):

Cut: 2 pieces of **the same** or coordinating fabric 11" X 13 3/4"

Stitch: 2 pieces **right sides together** using a 3/8" seam allowance. Backstitch at top and bottom of bag on seam allowance. Press side seams open.

BAG ASSEMBLY:

Put right sides of tubes together matching side seams. Stitch around TOP of bag at 1/4". ****Take note where label is and make sure stitching around top of bag. Now turn so wrong sides together and press around top. Keeping the bag right side out lay flat and line up the bottom edges. **CHECK:** Trim the bottom of bag (if there has been any shift in the fabric) so cut edges are even.

Stitch across and through all 4 layers at 1/8" seam allowance. Make sure you are catching all 4 layers.

Now turn the bag wrong side out and stitch again across the bottom of bag with a 1/4" seam allowance. (use a tight stitch length) The 1/8" seam allowance will be sandwiched between layers. This is called a French seam. All raw edges will be enclosed now.

DRAWSTRING CASING:

Turn bag right side out and press. **On outside of bag draw a chalk line 1 1/2" down from top and another at the 2 1/2" mark.** Stitch all around bag through both layers of fabric 1 3/4" from top and then again at 2 1/2" from top. This will create the slot/casing for the drawstring cords

DRAWSTRING CORD:

Cut: 2 pieces of 24" preferred colour of cord.

Using a safety pin or bodkin thread one piece of cord through the RIGHT slot (opening on seam allowance) all the way around and back out the "same" RIGHT slot. Melt the cord ends with a flame (match) to secure cord from unraveling. Now tie the two ends in a big knot so knot is at the very end.

Do the same as above for the LEFT slot.

Your Bead bag is now complete to gift to a child in the Beads of Courage Program. Thank you for your handmade work of art that becomes the home of a child's Beads of Courage collection. Thank you for having the courage to care.

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