

Blessings in a Shoebox Drawstring School Backpack Step-by-Step Tutorial



Materials

1. Canvas or twill fabric 38" x 15" for the backpack
2. Canvas or twill fabric 2" x 4" for the loops
3. Additional canvas or cotton fabric and snaps to make optional pockets
4. 4 yards of ¼" cord cut in half (cauterize the ends if using nylon to prevent raveling)

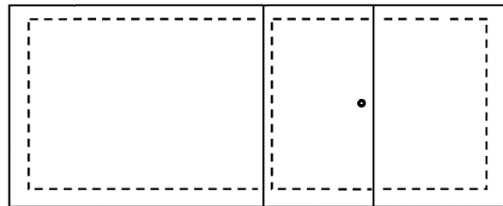
Total Cost per Backpack (depending on your fabric and trim choices) Approximately \$3.00 each

Steps for Sewing the Backpack

1. Fold the edge of the large rectangular fabric ½: on all sides and sew a ¼" hem around the entire piece. If adding the optional pocket, attach it on the end in the center before going on. Align the edges and sew the ¼" hem



(without pocket)

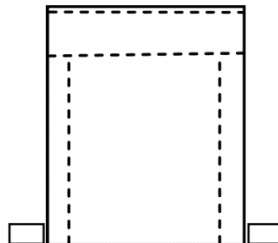


(with pocket)

2. Fold each short end down 1½" and sew a ¼" seam to create a casing for the drawstring.



3. To make the loops fold the small rectangles lengthwise so they meet in the center. Fold again so the edges align and sew them lengthwise.
4. Fold the fabric in half with right sides of material facing inward. Insert the loops near the fold at the bottom of the backpack on each side between the two layers so that they will be sewn into the seam.



5. Run the cord through the casing beginning and ending on the same side and through the loop on the same side. Repeat on the opposite side. Tied the ends of the cord using an overhand knot above the loop. Cauterize the ends of the cord if using nylon to ensure that it doesn't fray.
6. Add complimentary embellishments to personalize the drawstring backpack.