

## Materials

- ❖ Fabrics, 1 yard minimum of each (makes 1 sack and 1 hammock)
  - Quilter's cotton, denim, flannel, etc for outside
  - Anti-pilling fleece for the inside.
- ❖ Thread to match your materials
- ❖ Ribbon
- ❖ Sewing machine
- ❖ Cutting mat
- ❖ Rotary cutter
- ❖ Straight edge or yard stick
- ❖ Scissors and snips
- ❖ Straight pins (extra long) and pin cushion
- ❖ Seam ripper
- ❖ Point turner
- ❖ Candle and lighter or matches

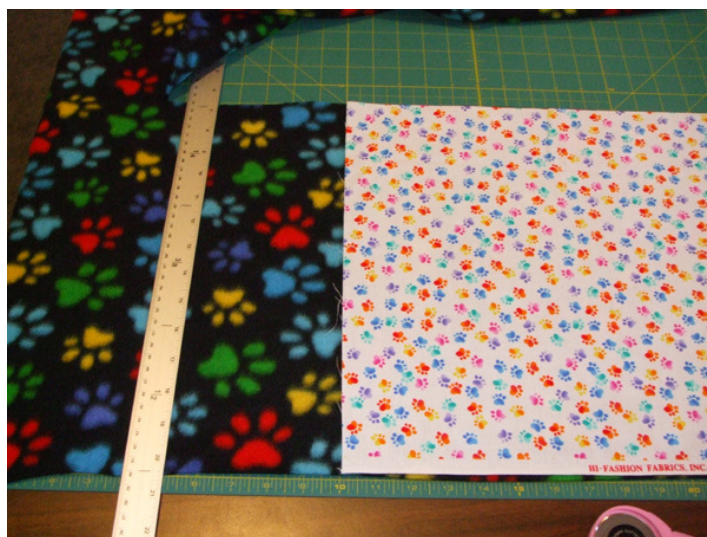


*Follow instructions to make a hammock or a sleep sack.*

1. Purchase and wash all materials prior to cutting.
2. Match material (quilting cotton, denim, flannel, etc) to fleece (anti-pilling).

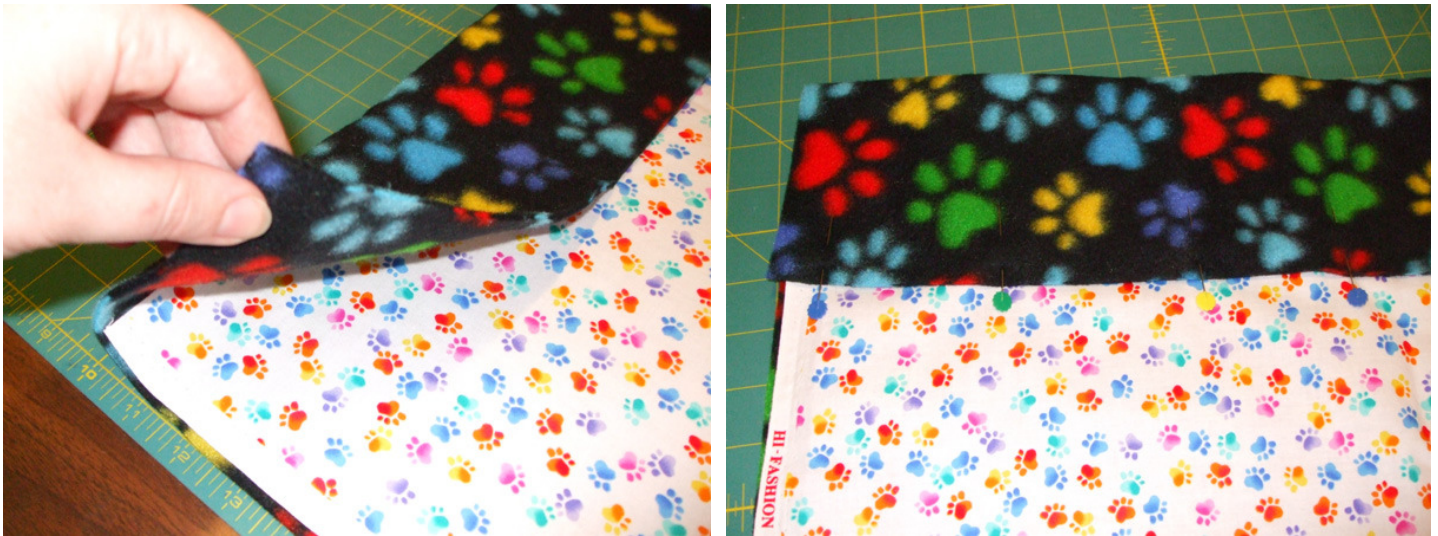


3. Cut according to measurements or by using cardboard templates:
- a. Hammock – material: 14.5” x 36” fleece: 14.5” x 41”
  - b. Sleep sack – material: 21” x 27” fleece: 21” x 32”

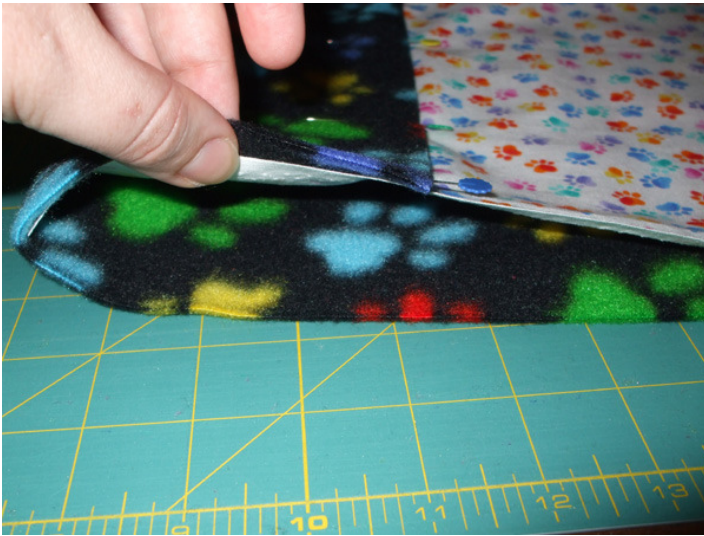




4. Once the fabric is cut to the appropriate sizes, lay the material on top of the fleece, **WRONG SIDES** facing each other, leaving the extra fleece all at one end.
  - a. To determine the wrong side of the fleece:
    - i. The selvage edge **ALWAYS** rolls to the **RIGHT** side of the fabric and away from the **WRONG** side.
    - ii. If there is no selvage edge, test a few inches on the edges to determine which edge stretches more by holding the same edge with both hands approximately 4-5 inches apart and pulling slightly. The edge that stretches **MORE** will roll to the **WRONG** side of the fleece when pulled gently.
5. Flip the extra fleece up over the material and flatten it so that everything is straight.

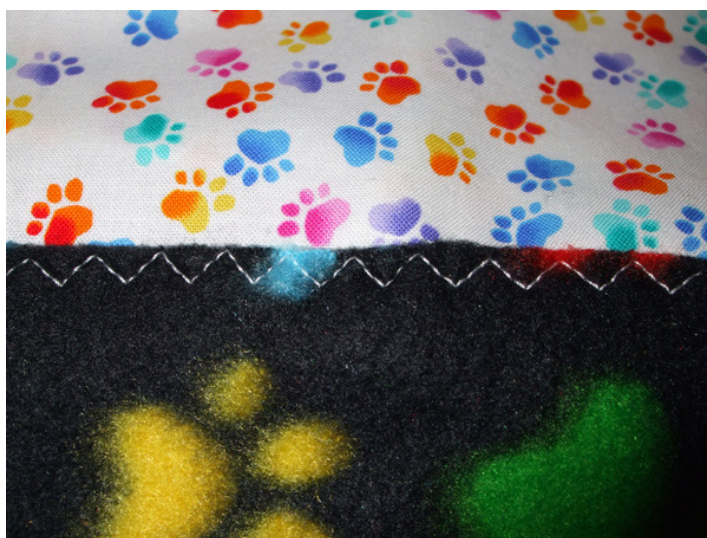


6. Pin fleece to material, making sure only to pin 2 layers and NOT 3. You will pin through the folded over fleece and the material, DO NOT pin through the bottom layer of the fleece. Be sure to insert your pins into BOTH layers and back out BOTH layers, otherwise the layers will just pull apart and will need re-pinning. Place your pins about every 3-4 inches, closer and there are too many pins, further and the fabric starts to buckle.





7. This will now go to the people doing the sewing and they will do the First Stitch by using a zig-zag, scalloped or similar stitch to sew up the edge of the fleece to the material where you have pinned, making sure NOT to sew through all 3 layers. While they are making the First Stitch, they will also remove any pins.

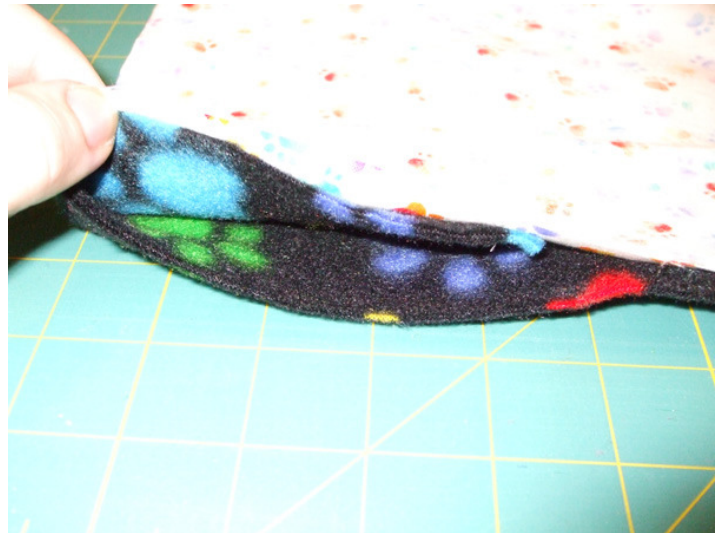


8. Once the First Stitch is made and ALL pins have been removed, the people who are doing the pinning will then flip the fabric so that the RIGHT sides are facing each other. Match the ends opposite the stitching and straighten out from there to the folded end. Make sure the material does not overhang the fleece. Pin the 3 OPEN sides but NOT the folded end. The people who will sew it will follow where the pins are and if the folded end is pinned, it will get stitched and it will have to be ripped out. Place your pins about every 4 inches, closer and there are too many pins, further and the fabric starts to buckle.





9. The people sewing will now use a straight stitch to complete the Around the World stitch, making sure to leave a 6" hole at the beginning in order to flip it later. DO NOT stitch the folded fleece end.



10. After the straight stitch is complete and ALL pins have been removed, the people who are flipping and pinning will trim the corners close to the stitching. **VERY IMPORTANT! DO NOT** cut the folded fleece edges. **DO NOT** cut the stitching either. This step helps the corners to be sharper in the next step.



11. Flip fabric right-side-out using a point turner to make the corners nice and sharp.



12. Iron fabric neat and flat, making sure not to overheat the fleece. This will help you to pin the hole closed easier in step 14.
13. Iron on [CraftyWeasels.com](http://CraftyWeasels.com) labels.



14. Using 3-5 pins, pin the hole closed so that there are no rough edges showing. Be sure that fleece and material are both lined up together. Start and finish pinning where the stitching starts so that the people sewing will be sure they stitch the hole closed entirely.



15. Pin the 2 shorter ends flat for stitching as well. These ends are the folded fleece edge and the edge opposite from that. DO NOT pin them to each other, just flat. This will help keep the fabric from moving around when washing in the future.



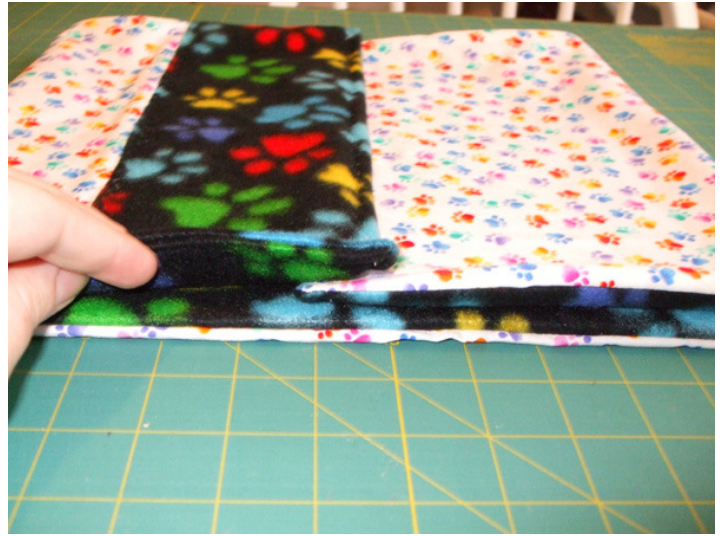
16. The people who are sewing will use a zig-zag, scalloped or similar stitch to sew the hole closed and along the ends where the pins are.



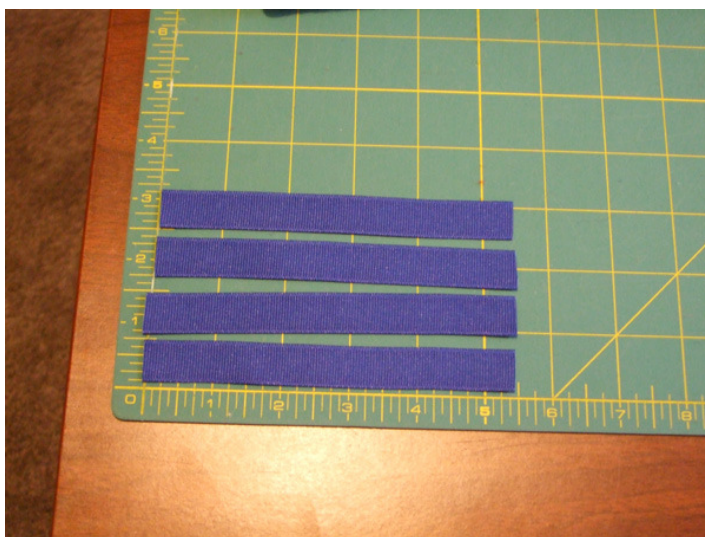
17. Using a straight stitch or a very small zig-zag stitch, stitch along the long ends of the CraftyWeasels.com label for extra support. These labels DO NOT hold on permanently with just ironing and MUST be stitched.



18. Fold the material for the hammock over so that the ends meet in the middle and overlap only 1". (Fold material for sack in half so that the folded fleece edge is approximately 1" from the opposite end.)



19. Match and cut ribbon according to the following measurements:
- a. Hammock – 5.5” 4 times
  - b. Sleep sack – 11” 2 times (or 5.5” 4 times if necessary)



20. Melt the ends of the ribbon to seal them and keep them from fraying. To melt the ribbon ends, hold the end close to the flame of a candle, but DO NOT hold the ribbon IN the flame as it will catch fire.)





21. For hammocks, fold the ribbons in half and stitch them so they stay folded. This adds extra support to help keep them from fraying. (For sacks, you will fold the ribbon in half and the folded end will go inside the bedding in order to tie the sacks to cages in the future. If you had to cut 5.5" 4 times for the sacks, you will need to have 2 of them stitched together at the ends to create the ties.)



22. For hammocks, place 1 ribbon hook in each of the 4 folded corners, inserting the stitched ends about half an inch in between the folds. (For sacks, insert the folded or stitched end of 1 ribbon tie in each of the 2 folded corners.) Pin the open sides with 5-6 pins making sure to put a pin where the ribbons are as well as where the ends overlap.



23. The people doing the sewing will now do the Final Stitch. Using a zig-zag, scalloped or similar stitch, they will stitch the sides closed making sure to double stitch over the ribbons for added support.



24. QAQC or QC (Quality Assurance, Quality Control) will now snip any extra threads hanging from the bedding and put the completed item in their proper donation piles. This is also a good time to be sure there is a CraftyWeasels.com label on the bedding and that it is stitched down. Look for anything that may be wrong with the bedding so that it can go back to the proper person to be fixed.



25. If you have any questions while at the sew day, please find Margaret, Florence, Karen, Ann or Adrian.



## Glossary

### ❖ Fabrics

- **Anti-pilling fleece** – This means that your fleece will not get those little balls of fuzz after a few washes. This type of fleece will look as good as it did on the first day even after many washes.
- **Material** – I use this word to refer to the non-fleece fabrics. This includes quilter's cotton, denim, flannel, etc.
- **Right side** – This refers to the correct side of the fabric, the side that you want to show on the outside of the bedding when it is finished.
- **Right-sides-out** – Normally, this is used when you are flipping your project so that the right or correct sides show on the outside rather than the wrong sides.
- **Selvage edge** – This refers to the edge of the fleece that comes slightly rolled and usually has some kind of writing on it. This edge is usually less stretchy than the other edges.
- **Wrong side** – This refers to the side of the fabric that will not be seen when the bedding is completed.

### ❖ Ribbon

- **Hook** – This refers to the loop that you can use a metal clip (like a shower curtain ring) to connect the bedding to the cage bars.
- **Tie** – This refers to the ribbon hanging out in order to tie it to the cage bars instead of using a metal hook or other attachment.

### ❖ Stitches

- **Around the world** – This is a straight stitch used in step 9 to sew up the 3 open sides but making sure to leave a 6" hole in order to flip the fabric.
- **Double stitch** – This is simply going over the area, normally where the ribbons are attached, two or even 3 times in order to help them support the animals' weight later on. This also helps keep the ribbon from fraying after a few washes.
- **E-stitch** – This is usually the first stitch, the E-stitch is shaped like an E, hence the name. Not all machines will have this stitch and you can use anything like a scallop or zig-zag stitch.
- **Final stitch** – This is the last stitch that will be made. This stitch holds the hammocks and sacks together to form the pockets and it also holds in the ribbon hooks and ties.
- **First stitch** – This is the time when the folded fleece will be stitched to the material in step 7. This is not a particular stitch but a time to do stitching. You can use any type of stitch similar to a scallop, zig-zag or E-stitch.
- **Scalloped** – Similar to a zig-zag stitch but with slightly rounded edges instead of sharp points.
- **Straight** – This is the basic stitch on every machine. There is no trick to it, just set it for straight with no zig-zags. The needle will not go side to side but strictly up and down to give you a "running" stitch in a straight line.
- **Zig-zag** – This gives you a side to side motion while stitching so that it holds the fabric a little better as well as giving you a little decorative element.

## ❖ Other

- **Cardboard templates** – These are measured and precut according to the special measurements of the hammocks and sleep sacks. Once these are made, there is no need to measure, you just lay these on the material/fleece and cut around the template accordingly.
- **Folded corners** – This is where the bedding is folded over and you insert your hooks and ties here.
- **Ripped, rip, seam ripper** – When we mess up a stitch, and this does happen to the best of seamstresses, we use a seam ripper to take out the stitching in order to make a hole or to redo the stitching due to buckling or other abnormalities. Don't worry, this does happen, sometimes a lot, and it's easily corrected.
- **Quality Assurance, Quality Control (QAQC or QC)** – Quality Control is just a term for the person making sure that the bedding is completely finished, threads are trimmed and there are no out of places holes or bad stitching. We wouldn't want to send any bedding that wasn't totally complete.

