

# *Christmas Sewing*

## *on a Shoestring*



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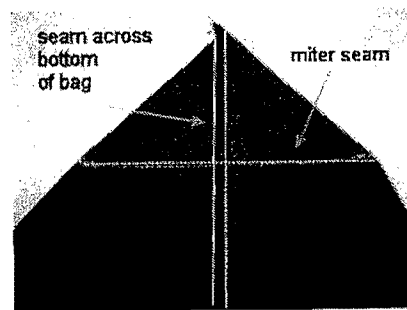
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# Easy Gift Bag Sewing Pattern

1. Cut out your fabric. For the bags given out at Holiday Happening, we used fabric rectangles that were 14 inches x 11 inches.
2. Sew the two shorter sides together with a  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch seam. (Right sides together). Finish seam to prevent fraying.
3. Lay the fabric roll flat so the seam goes up the middle of the bag. Sew across one end of the fabric with a  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch seam. Reinforce with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch seam.
4. To make mitered corners on the bottom of the bag, pull out the sides of the bag. On both sides of bottom seam, pull out the little points. Measure and mark the miter line  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch up from the point. Stitch along this line. Repeat on the other side of the bag. By mitering the corners, the bag will stand up and not tip over.



5. Fold under top edge of the bag  $\frac{1}{3}$  inch. Sew  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the edge. Fold over once again  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Sew along edge of fold. Turn bag right side out.
6. Ribbon can be attached at the seam line about two inches from the hem of the bag. Tie the bag in a bow after you fill with your favorite treat or mix.

## **Cinnamon Oatmeal Pancake Mix**

- 4 cups quick cooking oats
- 2 cup flour
- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup non-fat dry milk
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar
- 2 T. Cinnamon
- 2 t. salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  t. cream of tarter
- 5 T. baking powder
- 1 t. soda

Combine ingredients and stir to mix well. Put in a large airtight container. Label. Store in a cool dry place. Use within 6 months.

Mixing Directions: In a medium bowl, beat 2 eggs. Beat in 3 T. Oil gradually. Alternately stir in 2 cups pancake mix and 1 cup of water. Drop by spoonfuls onto a lightly greased skillet over medium-high heat. When the batter shows broken bubbles, turn the pancakes over. Cook about 2 to 3 minutes.

# **Easy-Squeezy Holiday Quilts**

## ***The Simplest Way to Finish a Quilt - Requires NO Binding***

This method of binding your quilt involves simply sewing around the edges of the quilt sandwich as if it were a giant pillow. Works great when you're in a hurry - or mass producing lots of quilts.

Not every quilt is destined to become an heirloom. Some quilts are thrown together quickly and lead short, hardworking lives - such as nap quilts at preschool, picnic/emergency quilts stored in the trunk of your car, or a flannel quilt used on early morning/late night bus trips to a game or debate meet.

The pillow method treats your quilt as if it were a large pillow, leaving an opening on one side that's big enough to turn the "pillow" inside out. Then the quilt is turned right side out and blind stitched to close the opening.

### Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Pre-shrink your fabric before starting.
2. Layer the quilt top and backing fabric on your work surface with right sides facing each other.
3. Pin every few inches around the edge of the quilt.
4. Sew all the way around the quilt with a 3/4 inch seam allowance leaving an opening on one side that is eight to twelve inches. (It's a good idea to pinking - shear the seams after sewing to help prevent fraying. Leave as much seam allowance as possible for the batting to be basted.)
5. Do not turn right side out.
6. Lay quilt on top of batting. Baste batting to seam allowance all the way around the quilt. Baste to only one side of the opening - the fabric closest to the batting.
7. Turn the quilt right-side out making sure the corners are pointed.
8. Blind stitch the opening closed by hand.
9. Tie the quilt through all three layers.
10. Top stitch around the entire quilt.

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**About.com : Quilting****Yo Yo Quilts and Using Yo Yos for Applique**

By Janet Wickell, About.com Guide

**Yo Yo Quilt Introduction**

Yo Yo Quilt Displayed on a bed

*Photo © Denice Marriette***What Are Yo Yos?**

Yo Yos are little rosettes made by gathering circles of fabric. Yo yos are typically sewn side by side into rows, but also make nice little bits to use as dimensional applique.

**Yo Yo Quilts**

Yo yo quilts were very popular in the 1930's and 1940's and we see lots of lovely examples sewn with fabrics from those eras. Some were structured, with yo yos arranged to form a pattern, but many yo yo quilts were quite scrappy.

It's common to see yo yo quilts with no batting or backing--I suppose those are best called coverlets. Some yo yos are attached with a short seam, others are closer together, filling up gaps and making the yo yos look more mounded, like the quilt above.

Yo yos are sometimes attached to a large piece of fabric, which can then be treated just like any other quilt top. That type of yo yo quilt is often tied rather than quilted.

**Other Uses for Yo Yos**

- Create yo yos in an assortment of colors and sizes and applique them to your quilt
- Attach yo yos to a square or rectangular piece of backing fabric and make a throw pillow
- Sew yo yos to a backpack, purse or other tote
- Make tiny yo yos for a doll bed coverlet

The quilt above is courtesy Denise Mariette. You can view her quilts and other items on eBay. Denise's user name is mardyboy<sup>1</sup>.

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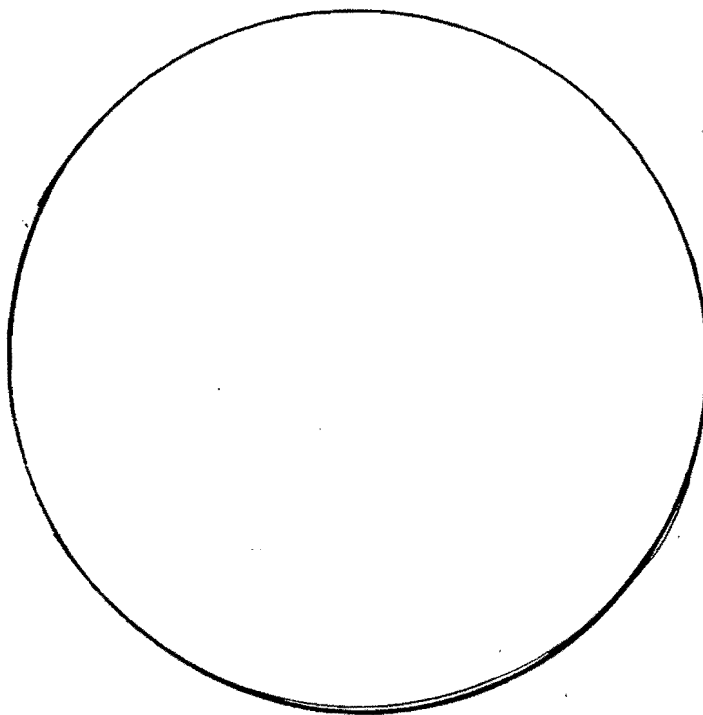
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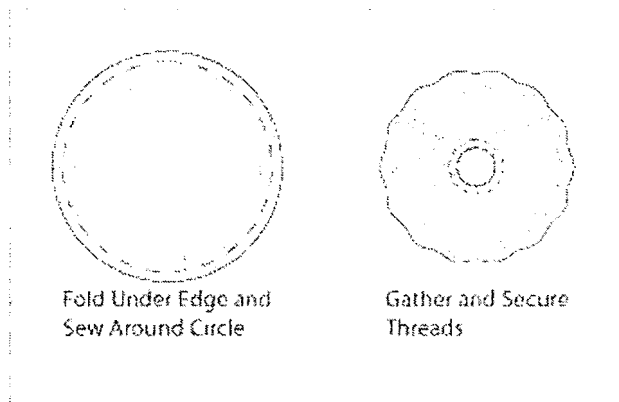


## About.com : Quilting

### Yo Yo Quilts and Using Yo Yos for Applique

By Janet Wickell, About.com Guide

#### How to Make Yo Yos



Making Yo Yos for a Quilt

© Janet Wickell

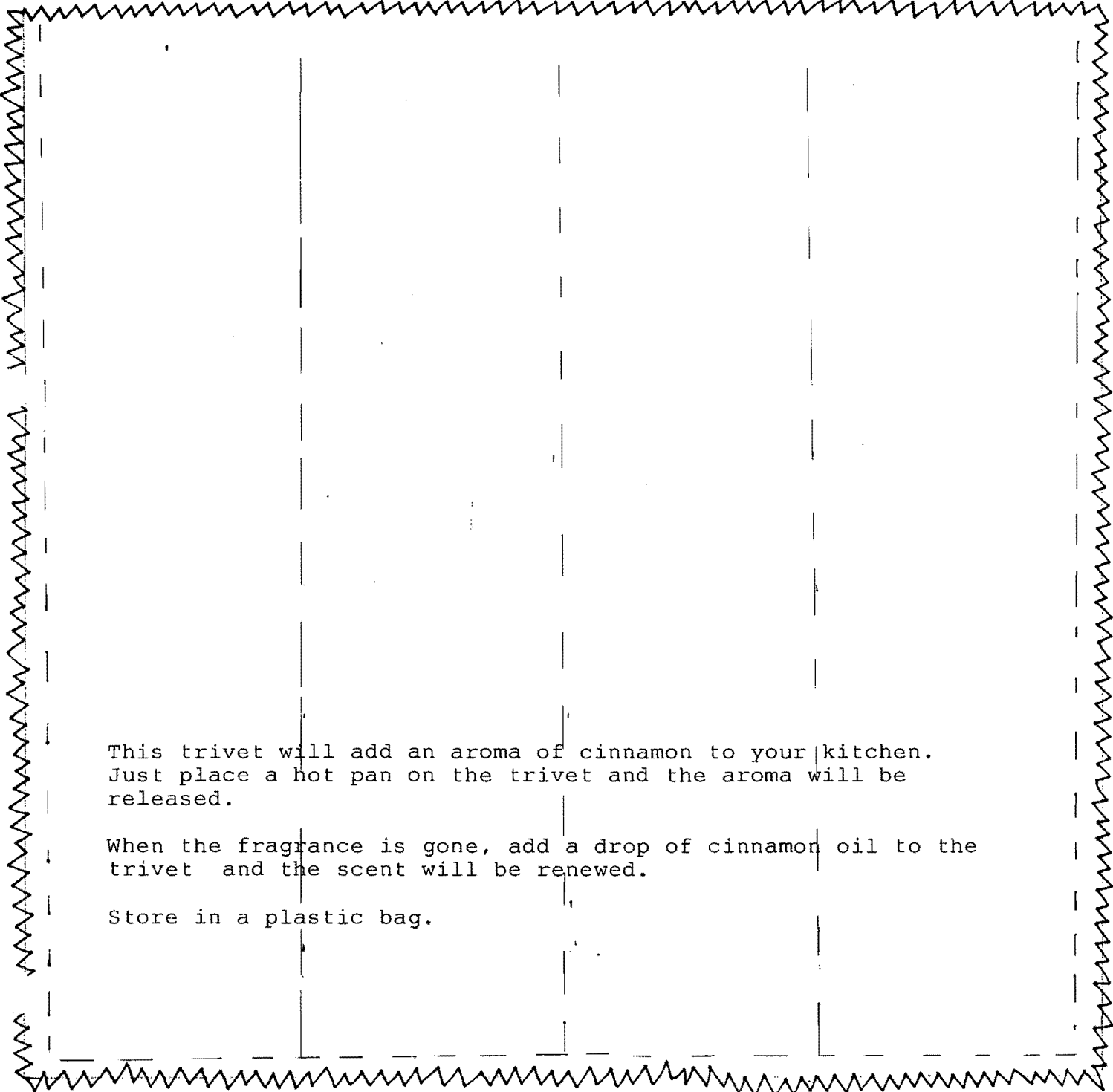
#### Traditional Yo Yos

Decide how large you want your yo yos to be and make a circular template twice that size plus about 1/2". A plastic or cardboard template works just fine--or use a round jar lid if you can find one close to the right size.

1. Place the circle template on the right side of your fabric and trace around it lightly with a pencil or chalk marker. Leave about 1/2" between circles.
2. Cut out circles about 1/4" past the line.
3. Thread a hand sewing needle with quilting thread. If you use regular thread, sew with two strands.
4. Knot the end of the thread and bring it up from the reverse side while folding under the circle on the line. The needle and thread should pass through both layers to create a seam allowance.
5. Continue sewing around the circle, folding under the seam allowance as you go.
6. When you reach the starting point, tug on the thread to gather the circle into a rosette. Leave a hole in the middle of the yo yo.
7. Distribute the gathers and secure the thread with a few backstitches, then make a knot for extra security.
8. Trim excess thread, re-knot and make another yo yo.

# Cinnamon Trivet

1. Cut 2 pieces of fabric 7 1/2 X 7 1/2 inches with pinking shears.
2. Sew 3 sides shut. Make at least 3 seams in the middle of square of fabric.
3. Fill the open end with rice soaked in cinnamon oil.
4. Sew across top of trivet.



This trivet will add an aroma of cinnamon to your kitchen. Just place a hot pan on the trivet and the aroma will be released.

When the fragrance is gone, add a drop of cinnamon oil to the trivet and the scent will be renewed.

Store in a plastic bag.

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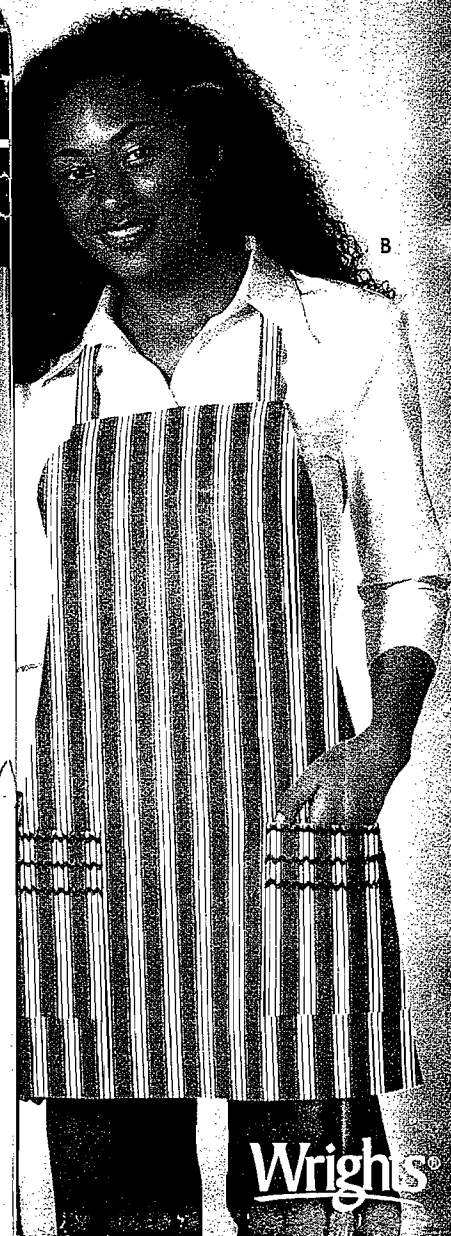
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## Holiday Pillowcase Instructions

By Sara Wiegman, USU Graduate Student and USU Extension Intern

Standard Size 32" x 20"

### Fabric Requirements:

$\frac{3}{4}$  yard for the body of the pillowcase

$\frac{1}{3}$  yard for the cuff of the pillowcase

$\frac{1}{8}$  yard for the accent strip

When choosing fabric for the body of the pillowcase be aware the selvage edge is the long edge of the finished pillowcase, so if you are considering directional fabric and would like the design to run horizontal, then purchase  $1\frac{3}{4}$  yards for the body. You will cut 42" from the length of the fabric.

### Cutting:

Cut body of Case 27" x 42"

Cut cuff 10" x 42"

Cut accent strip 2.5" x 42"

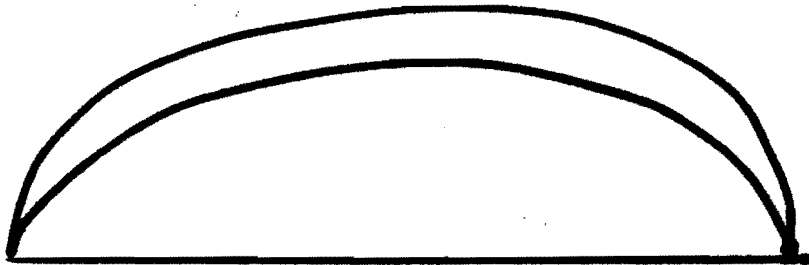
- ❖ Press the 2.5 accent strip in half, wrong sides together so that you have a  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " strip.
- ❖ Lay cuff piece (10 x 42) open, right side up on work surface.
- ❖ Lay the  $1\frac{1}{4}$  accent strip on the top edge of the cuff.
- ❖ Now lay the body of the pillowcase right side down on top of the other 2 pieces of fabric and pin all 3 together at top edge.

- ❖ Take bottom edge of the body piece of fabric and fold it up to about 1 ½" from the top, so it is nearly folded in half. Then fold it up from the bottom again and then one final time. (total of 3 times) Now the body of the pillowcase forms a roll.
- ❖ You will be able to see the cuff piece of fabric (this is still flat on your work surface).
- ❖ Now fold the cuff piece in half up over the roll of the body of the pillowcase to the top edge and re-pin. (The cuff piece is incasing the rest of the fabric.)
- ❖ Sew along the top edge where you pinned with a ¼ " seam. Grade seam to reduce bulk.
- ❖ Pull body of fabric out of the cuff sleeve. Press cuff after turning.
- ❖ Now fold the pillowcase wrong sides together and sew around the raw edges with a scant ¼ " seam (Clip corners). Trim to 1/8".
- ❖ Turn pillowcase now so right sides are together (check your corners to make sure they are pushed out and pointy).
- ❖ Sew around case again just a little bigger than a ¼" to make sure you incase the first seam.
- ❖ Turn right sides out and press.

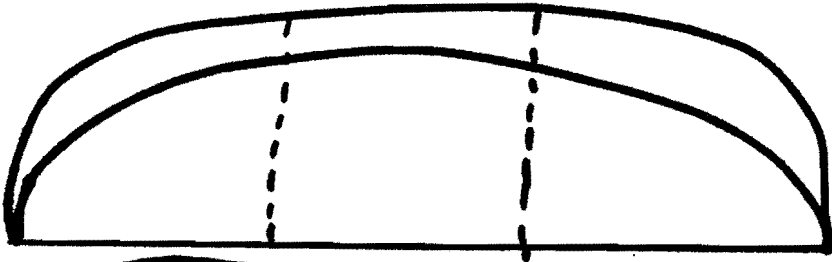
## Overnight Survival Kit

### You will need:

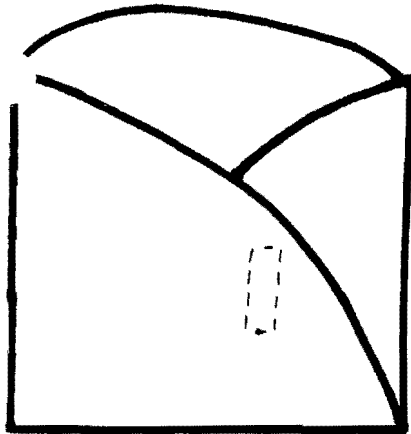
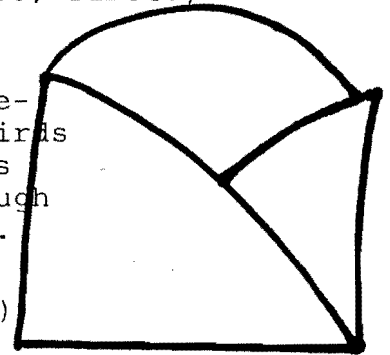
- An oval placemat (purchased or homemade)
- Bias Tape if making your own placemat
- 1 1/2 inches velcro
- 6-7 trial size toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste, comb, etc.)



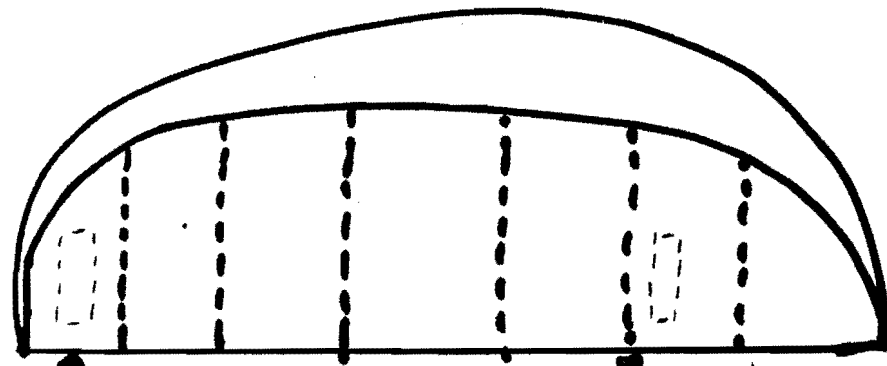
1. Fold placemat 1/3 lengthwise.  
(If you are making your own placemat, finish edges with bias tape, first.)



2. Fold placemat in thirds again this time through the width.  
(do not sew, yet)



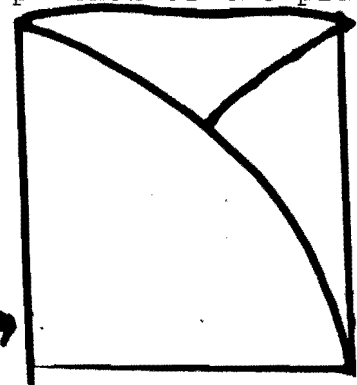
3. Position Velcro under top "flap." Pin velcro into position. Unfold placemat and sew velcro in place. You should have a piece of Velcro sewn to each side of the placemat if you have done it correctly.



Velcro

Velcro  
(sewn on other side)

4. Fold placemat in thirds again. Measure toiletries and stitch up "pockets" for each in the bottom portion of the placemat.



Finished Overnight Kit →

Dis. Soap Bottle Apron

You will need:

1. a scrap of quilted fabric
2. single-fold bias tape
3. gathered lace

