

Quick and Easy Back Pack
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This back pack makes a great book and school supply bag. See picture immediately after directions.

Supplies

- 14"x36" rectangle of denim.
- Contrasting fabric for pocket; rectangle no smaller than 7"x12" or larger than 10"x12".
- Zipper for pocket at least 7" long in a color to compliment pocket. Longer zippers can be cut to desired length once prepared according to directions below.
- 2 pieces of cotton clothesline 5 feet long each.
- Matching thread.
- A large safety pin.

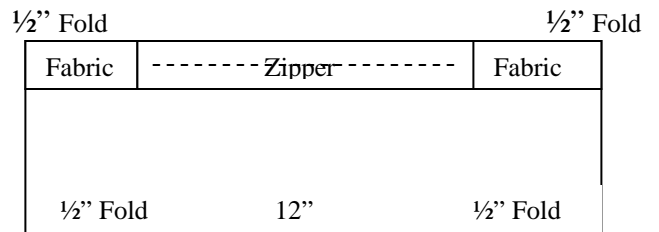
Pocket Preparation.

Cut a 1 1/4" wide strip along the long side of the pocket material. This will be used to cover the ends of the zipper tape and to make the zipper as wide as the pocket. Cut the 1 1/4" strip in two. Taking one of the half strips, place it right side down on top of zipper, lining up the bottom edge of fabric strip to bottom edge of zipper fabric. Stitch across fabric and zipper ends near to the zipper pull. Fold fabric back from zipper pull. Press flat. Top stitch across fabric and zipper near to zipper pull. Repeat process for the end of the zipper. If your zipper is too long, the fabric can be stitched to the zipper at the desired length being very careful that the needle goes between the teeth of the zipper. Cut off excess zipper length once the fabric has been topstitched to the zipper.

Lay the zipper piece right side down onto the right side of the pocket fabric. Stitch at a distance that will be close to the zipper teeth. Trim off fabric strips to same length as pocket.

Press pocket away from zipper. Top stitch close to zipper.

Press under 1/2" along the edges of pocket and zippers fabric extensions.



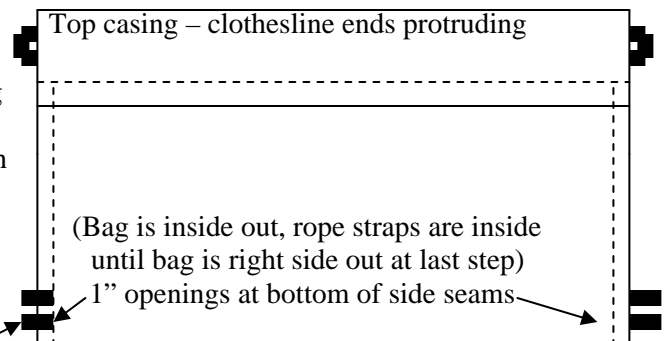
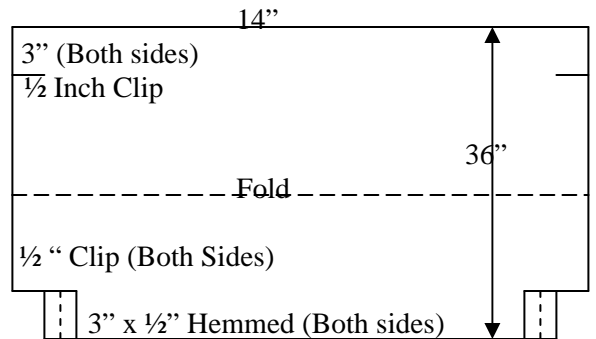
Bag Preparation.

On 36" sides of the denim, measure 3" from ends of the fabric, clip in 1/2". Make a narrow hem of each of the 3"x1/2" edges. To make casings, press under 1/4" along 14" ends, then press the 1/4" folds down to the clips. Topstitch close to folded edges.

Position the top of the pocket on the right side of the denim, 5" down from top of casing. Topstitch the pocket in place. Top stitch again 1/4" in from first topstitching for added strength.

Place tops of casings together with the right sides of the denim to the inside. Choose a stitch that will make a strong seam and stitch side seams, leaving about 1" open from the bottom of the bag.

Use large safety pin to thread clothesline through the casings so bag top will close when the ends of the rope are pulled. Thread the ends of clotheslines to inside (right side of denim) of bag and out through the 1" openings near the bottom of the bag. Let ends extend 1/2 to 1" beyond the seamed sides. Finish stitching ends of side seams being sure to stitch through ropes. Stitch several times to add strength to corners. Turn bag right side out and fill with school supplies.



Thread ends of clothesline through openings. Finish stitching side seams, stitching through clothesline several times.



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