

Clothing Protectors - Sewing instructions

Cutting and sewing

1. Lay two pieces of sturdy washable fabric with right sides together - minimum fabric size is 26" wide by 36" long.
2. Trace outline of pattern (copies available in charity bin) on wrong side of top piece with a fabric marker - disappearing ink, chalk pencil, etc.
3. Pin fabric layers together and pin ties between the pieces at shoulder, making sure the tails of the ties will not be sewn into side seams but other ends **WILL** be sewn into shoulder seam.
4. Sew on all marked lines leaving a gap at bottom to turn right side out.
5. Trim around sewn seam leaving a ¼" seam allowance. You may want to leave a half inch allowance at the opening to be sure it is caught when topstitched. Clip neckline curves.
6. Turn right side out by reaching into opening and grabbing ties and pulling through.
7. Poke corners out and press all edges.

Finishing options

Choose ONE of the following two methods depending on whether you want protector to be reversible. Nonreversible is easier - no buttonholes or buttons needed.

Nonreversible

1. Topstitch ¼" from bottom edge only - all the way across making sure to close the opening left for turning.
2. Turn bottom edge up from back to front to form pocket and pin on both sides.
3. Topstitch all the way around starting at one bottom edge, catching the folded up pocket edge on each side and backstitching at start and end **AND** at top of pocket on each side.

Reversible

1. Topstitch ¼" from edge all the way around **all** edges making sure to catch bottom opening left for turning.
2. Make buttonholes where indicated on lower right and left.
3. Sew buttons on right and left where marked on **both** the front and the back.
4. Turn bottom edge up and button it. Turn and button on other side for reversing.

Notes and tips

- Ties can be made of twill tape, double binding sewn together, ribbon, or constructed from strips of fabric. Ties should be ½" to 1" wide and approximately 15" long. If using **polyester** grosgrain ribbon, you can prevent tail ends from fraying by cutting on an angle and running cut edge quickly through the flame of a candle or lighter. Try a scrap ribbon edge first to make sure this is going to work.
- Pattern is drawn **without** seam allowances. If you wish to cut out garment before sewing instead of just sewing on traced lines and then cutting, you will need to **add** seam allowances.
- These will be worn by both men and women, so try to use material that men can wear with pleasure as well.