

DITTY BAG PATTERN

Materials:

1 yard sturdy, brightly colored cloth

One pair 30" shoelaces, or two 30" lengths of twill tape, cording or macrame braid or seam binding tape

Directions:

Cut according to width of material

45" wide ... cut 4 ... 11 1/4" x 36"

36" wide ... cut 3 ... 12" x 36"

60" wide ... cut 5 ... 12 X 36"

Finished Size is approximately 12" by 15"

Fold material in half, right sides together. Stitch 18" side seams

Fold top down 2". Turn raw edge under 1/4", and stitch hem.

Place another row of stitching 1" above hem, making a casing of 1" and a heading of 3/4"

Turn bag right side out. With seam ripper or razor blade, cut stitches to open 1" casing at each side. Insert 1 shoelace in one seam opening. Bring **completely around** inside casing and exit at the same spot. Knot ends together. Repeat in other seam opening with second shoelace. Laces should emerge from **outside** of bag, and when pulled simultaneously, should close bag.

Note: Bag may be made from different pieces of material.

Note: Please keep Ditty bags exactly to the size of the pattern. If they are too big the gifts get lost. If they are too small, the bags are not usable. We try to make all of the gifts of similar value and size. Please help us by making all of the bags the same size.

Picture of completed Ditty Bag. Ditty Bags are a tradition among seafarers. They are easy for *wrapping* and transporting gifts. They can also be used by the seafarer after Christmas to store odds and ends.

