

Sew Up My Alley



FABULOUS FABRIC BASKETS

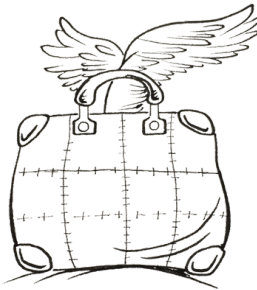
A quick and easy project, choose your favourite fabrics and whip up a few of these gorgeous baskets.

Perfect as a gift on their own, or include some home-baked treats.

Great for Christmas, Birthdays, Valentines, Easter, Halloween or any occasion.

Materials required:

- A piece of sturdy cardboard accurately cut to size 9" x 9" (Purchase from a stationery store, or recycle a cereal box.)
- Two fabric squares 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 10"
- Four small jewellery rings (jump rings).
- 40" (1 metre) of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch ribbon.
- Tracing wheel used to score lines on the cardboard.



Web: www.sewupmyalley.com.au

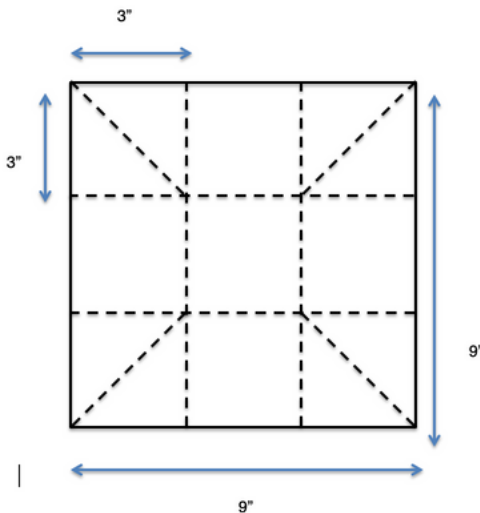
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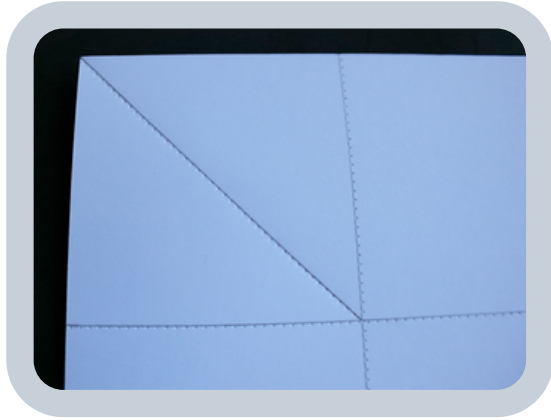


Step One

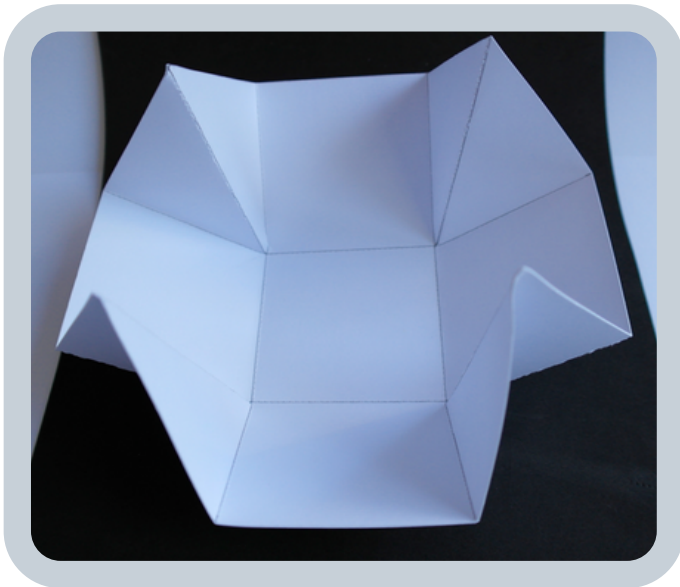
Accurately measure and cut your cardboard into a 9" x 9" square. Measure and mark 3" squares as per the diagram below. Include a diagonal line in each of the corner 3" squares.



Using your tracing wheel, score along all the marked lines.



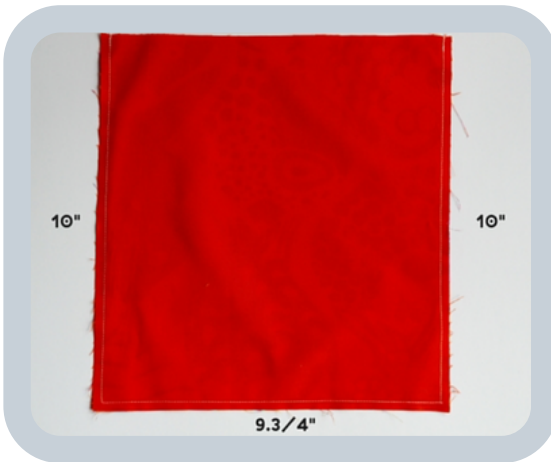
Gently fold along all the scored lines until you have a shape like the photo below and then flatten out again because you will be inserting this later into your fabric pocket.



Step two

Cut the feature outside fabric and solid inside fabric $9\frac{3}{4}$ " x 10". Accuracy is key to a successful fabric basket.

With right sides together and using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, sew along both 10" sides and one $9\frac{3}{4}$ " side (this leaves one edge open for inserting the cardboard).



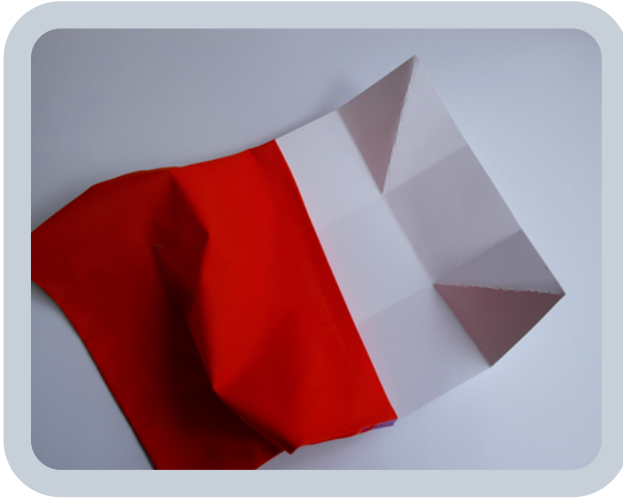
Trim the two sewn corners and turn right side out. Use a chopstick to gently push your corners out.



Press the square and turn the open ends in a half inch and press again. This will assist when you are sewing the seam shut.

Step Three

Insert the cardboard. Important - insert with the corner angle folds facing up towards the plain fabric - see photo below.



Pin the opening and topstitch the fabric, being careful not to stitch the cardboard.



Step Four

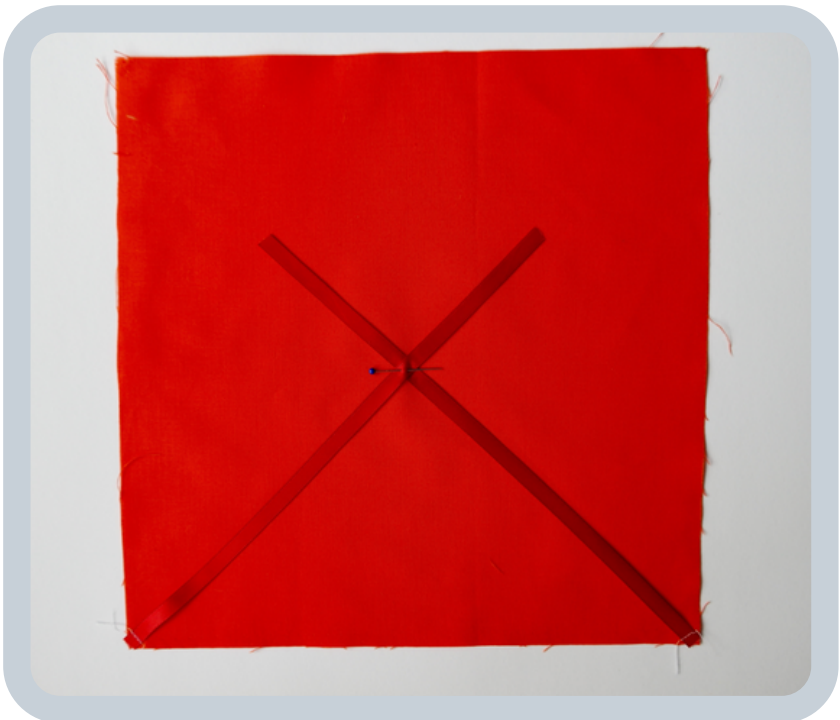
Hand sew a Jump Ring in each corner then thread the length of ribbon through each ring.



Alternative instructions for sewing the ribbon into the basket seams.

This creates a different closure but just as nice, and they are a little quicker to make.

At **Step Two**, cut the ribbon into four equal lengths and tack two of the ribbons in the bottom two corners on the plain fabric. Pin the loose ends out of the way in the centre as shown, then sew the seams as per step two instructions.



At **Step Three** insert a piece of ribbon at the beginning and end. Topstitch the fabric, tucking the ribbon as close to the corner as you can.



Top view of different ribbon versions



To make a “Mini” Fabric Basket simply cut and mark your cardboard 6" x 6" with 2" folding lines. Cut your fabric 6¾" x 7"

