

# Large Duffle Sail Bag Kit Assembly Instructions

#103508

Sail bags are meant to offer inexpensive protection from chafe and dirt. Large duffle bags can be easily assembled with two pieces of 8 oz. oxford-finished nylon fabric (round bottom and barrel), leech line, thread, grommet, and barrel lock. Use V-69 polyester thread and a #16 sewing machine needle. The examples for these instructions are for a 25-inch x 58-inch duffle bag.

## Assembly

Draw the circular end piece of the bag using a short length of string as a compass. The diameter should be equal to dimensions of the finished bag. This line is the sewing line. Draw a second circle, with a diameter 1-1/2 inches greater, around the first circle as the cutting line for the end piece (**Figure 1**).

The barrel of the bag should be as long as the circumference of the inner circle of the base plus 1 1/2 inches for a side seam allowance. The circumference of a circle is  $\pi \times \text{Diameter}$  ( $\pi = 3.1416$ ).

Cut the barrel and end piece from the cloth using a hotknife (soldering gun or wood burning tool) to seal the edges and minimize fraying. If a hotknife is not available, pass the raw edges of the cloth through a candle flame to sear them.

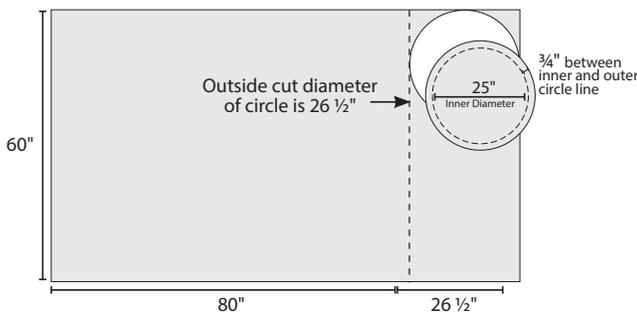


Figure 1

Begin attaching the pieces by sewing the end piece to the long edge of the barrel (the edge that becomes the bottom of the bag).

Place the end piece on the barrel cloth, so that the circle's edge is even with a long edge of the barrel cloth and it's diameter is about two inches away from and running parallel to a short edge (**Figure 2**).

Sew the end piece to the long edge of the barrel along the inner circle line (sewing line) using a straight stitch. Carefully rotate the

circle as you sew, keeping the edge of the barrel piece even with the edge of the circle. The seam allowance will pucker as you sew, but that is perfectly normal. It may be helpful to use pins to secure the circle to the barrel prior to sewing. Push the pins into the fabric at 90 degrees to the seam and sew right over them. Sew to within two inches of the other short edge (**Figure 2**).

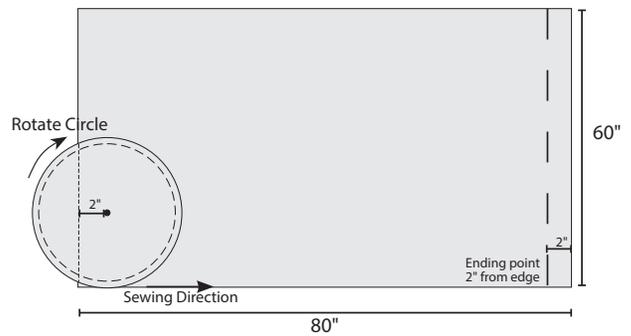


Figure 2

The barrel piece should reach all the way around the end piece with at least one-inch overlap. More than a one-inch overlap can be overlooked. If less than a one-inch overlap, rip the seam out and sew the end piece to the barrel along a line from 1/8 to 1/4 inch inside your original inner circle line. (A careful pinning job prior to sewing can eliminate any need to re sew this seam.)

Match the short edges of the barrel piece together (edges will run vertically up the side of the finished bag). Run a row of straight stitches inside these edges from 1/2 to 2-1/2 inches depending on the seam allowance left after stitching the bottom in place. Sew from the top to the bottom of the bag where the end piece is attached, and then finish sewing all around the circumference of the end piece to securely attach the barrel and end piece everywhere (**Figure 3**).

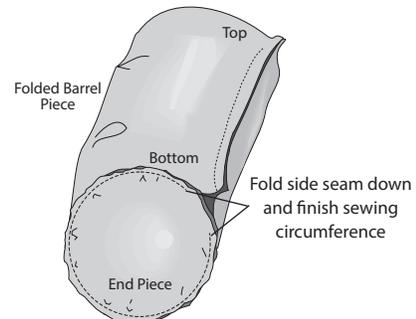


Figure 3

Next, install the drawstring in the top of the bag. With the bag still inside out, roll over 1/4-inch of the fabric to the outside along the top of the bag, and sew in place with a row of straight stitches (**Figure 4**). Install the grommet 2-1/2 inches from the rolled edge (measure to the top of the grommet). Use a razor blade to cut a 5/8-inch hole in the material and pound the two pieces of the grommet together with a hammer.

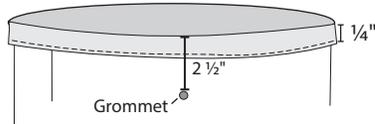


Figure 4

Fold over the top edge of the barrel again to form a 2 1/8-inch hem (**Figure 5**). This hem will be on the inside of the bag when turned right side out. Crease the fold down well to reduce pucker when sewing.

Insert the piece of leech line into the grommet and lay it along the crease in the hem. Make sure that the string will be inside the hem when it is sewn shut (**Figure 5**). Start at the grommet and sew the hem to the barrel using a straight stitch (**Figure 5**). It may help to sew this hem under the edge of the bag as the fabric goes through the machine. It is easy to follow the edge of the hem under the bag as it will be an obvious bump. Keep the drawstring well into the fold while sewing.

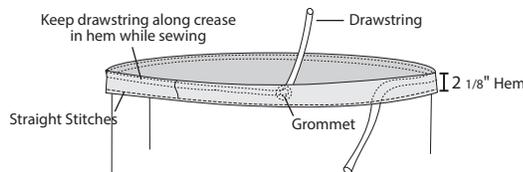


Figure 5

When approaching the starting point of this seam, run the free end of the drawstring through the grommet. Finish the stitching along the hem to completely enclose the drawstring (except at the grommet).

Cut the drawstring at desired length, and run the ends of the drawstring through the hole in the barrel lock. Tie knots at the ends of the drawstring and turn the bag right side out.



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