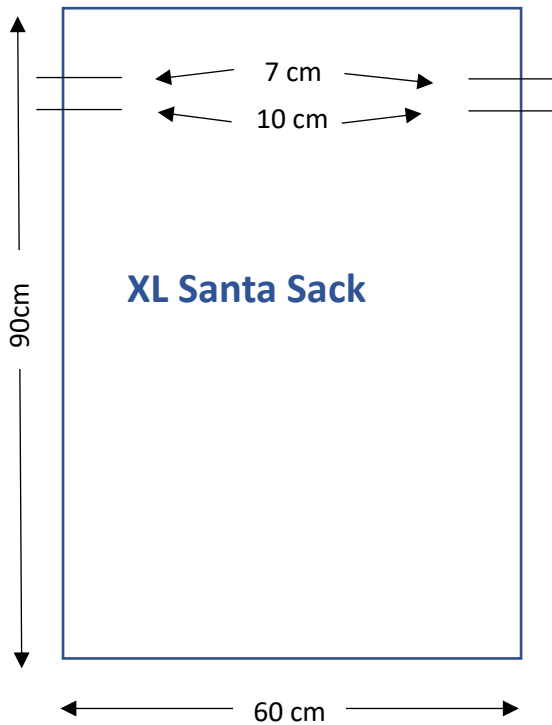


# Backpacks 4 VIC kids

## XL Santa Sack Bag sewing instructions.

Very large Santa Sacks are needed to distribute large gifts donated to B4VK to children in care through the B4VK Christmas 4 Kids in Care Program. Have fun making these. The children will appreciate your efforts and B4VK thank you.

B4VK volunteer: Dianne Cutler, May 2024



### XL Santa Sack

You will need:

- Cotton or poly cotton fabric Christmas themed, or red/green/gold, or calico, white sheeting.
- NO slippery or stretchy or sheer material
- Cut 2 pieces 90cm x 60cm
- 2 x 1.3 metre cords for the ties. Ideally red, green, gold or whatever you have.

1. **Cutting the fabric.** Cut 2 pieces of fabric single layer 60 cm x 90 cm. Alternatively fold the fabric and cut 45 cm x 60 cm and repeat again (= 2 pieces, 60 cm x 90 cm)
2. **Base Seam.** Fold material RS together as shown in diagram. Pin and machine 1.25 cm (4/8") along the base seam. Overlock or zig zag base seam allowances. Press seam allowance to one side.  
**Top stitch** to reinforce the base seam: Turn fabric over to RS, with pressed seam allowance to the left, line up the right edge of the foot with the fold and top stitch along the base seam. Press flat.
3. **Side seams.** Lay the fabric RS together and pin matching the 90 cm side seams, leaving 10cm open at the top of each side seam. Mark a 7cm and 10cm line with a dressmaker's pencil either side as shown in the diagram.



Overlock or zig zag 10cm from top edge at both sides of the 7cm opening (casing)

Overlock or zig zag along the top edges of both sides of the top edge.

Machine 1 cm (4/8") along both side seams from 7cm mark to the base.

Overlock or zig zag side seam allowances together.



4. **Boxed corners.** With sack inside out, match side seams to base seam to form a triangle. Make sure the base seam is inwards and the side seam is outwards to keep seam flat. Reverse for the other side.

Mark a 13 cm stitching line 6cm down from the corner point of the sack and machine straight across the bag.

**Tip:** draw & cut out a triangle template from cardboard, 6 cm down and 13 cm across.

Place template onto fabric and draw stitching line with a dressmaking pencil.



5. **Casing.** **Tip:** Make 4 marks with dressmakers' pencil 7 cm from top edge to make it easier to line up the folded edge for casing.

**Folding down casing.** Fold down 7 cm triangle on each side of bag and pin. Turn sack over and match up on the other side & press.

Turn down top edge 7 cm, level with the folded triangle on the side, pin into place. Turn sack over and repeat on the other side. Press both sides flat. Fold top of each side seam flat in line with the direction of the seam at the boxed base.



### **Machining casing.**

**Tip:** Place the edge of the machine foot on the overlocked edge of the casing.

Start 2 cm before one side seam then machine around the entire bag keeping the edge of the foot on the overlocked edge of the casing. Reverse at the beginning and end to secure stitching.



To reinforce the casing, stitch 2/8" (.75cm) in from the top folded edge on one side of the bag, reversing at the beginning and end to secure stitching. Repeat on other side of the bag.



6. **FINISHING OFF.** Trim threads. Turn sack RS out. Reinforce the casing edge by sewing along the stitching line 2cm either side of the side seam, rotating on the needle and stitching back again. Repeat with the other side seam.

Press sack flat, press bagged base up flat.

Thread cord through casing from left all around to left casing then tie off. Repeat by inserting the cord from the right and all around to right casing then tie off.



**Tip:** Join shoelaces together to make a 130cm tie.

Cut 2 shoelaces 67cm in length, overlap 2cm on each shoelace and zig zag together to secure.

**The finished XL Santa Sack in gold fabric with double casing and two cords.**

