

Stitch-A-Wish
benefiting **Cook Children's Medical Center** in Fort Worth, Texas

HOLIDAY BAGS

The holidays come to Cook Children's every winter. Elves are needed to make Christmas gift bags to put each child's toys in.

Supplies:

1 yard of a Christmas, holiday, or winter print fabric
2 ¾ yards of ribbon, cording or self-made drawstring

Sewing Instructions:

1. Fold fabric in half with the selvages together. Trim one raw edge perfectly square to the selvage. Measure and mark 31" from the cut edge. Draw a line along these marks and cut on the line.
2. Open your piece of fabric and fold under ½" to the wrong side and press. Tuck under another 1" along this edge and press again for your drawstring casing. You won't stitch this edge until later. Make a ½" buttonhole on the center fold starting ¼" from the top edge.
3. Fold fabric in half again bringing short edges and right sides together. Starting from the top, stitch on 1 ¾" down, jump ½" and continue stitching down the side and along the bottom. The gap in your stitching is the casing opening that corresponds to the buttonhole.
4. Finger-press the seam open to the top and refold the casing along pressed edges.
5. Top-stitch the folded edge on the inside, around the casing.
6. Cut the ribbon in half and tread it through the casing in and out of the buttonhole. Knot the ends together. Repeat with the 2nd piece of ribbon in and out of the opening in the seam.

The above is only one option for the gift bags. You can make them on the serger or whatever way that is easiest for you. It is just a basic 1 yard drawstring bag. The children keep the gift bags to use as laundry bags or to pack up their things to go home. Remember the teens when choosing fabric patterns...a lot of the teens have to stay over Christmas!!

Thank you!!

For additional information or to join Cook Children's Volunteer Stitch-A-Wish program, please contact:

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--OR--

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