

# Sewing instructions

for a gym bag for the European Football Championship



This sporty, football-style gym bag is so easy and quick to sew that you can even make it just half an hour before kick-off! The corners are reinforced with faux leather and give the gym bag a certain coolness. Incidentally, it's ideal for transporting drinks to a European Championship party!

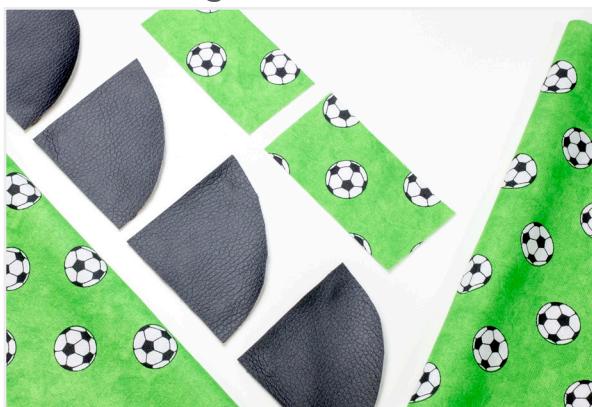
And: it makes a superb gift for someone who's new to sewing.

## Materials needed



- 60 cm x 80 cm fabric
- leather or faux leather measuring approx 7 x 26 cm
- cord measuring approx. 3.8 m and with a diameter of 5 mm
- matching sewing thread

## 1. Tailoring



- Tailor as follows; the seam allowances have already been allowed for. Please cut the leather or faux leather to size very neatly, as it is to remain raw-edged.
- From the football-themed fabric:  
For the main section: 2 pieces, each measuring 38 cm x 53 cm
- For the loops:  
2 pieces, each measuring 4 cm x 8 cm
- From the (faux) leather:  
4 corners (to do this, mark the two sides of a square measuring 6 cm x 6 cm and join the corners using a curve ruler or a rounded object)

## 2. Serging



- Serge all cut pieces individually. This is best done using an overlock machine.

## 3. Corners



- Pick up the corners and position each of them in the bottom corners of the main sections. Top-stitch them from the finished side using matching thread.

## 4. Making the loops



- Turn down the edges of your tailored loop sections lengthwise into the middle, iron the edges and re-fold the loop into the middle. Then top-stitch close to the edge.

## 5. Securing the loops



- Turn down half of the loops and pin them to the lower edge on one side of the gym bag, allowing a clearance of 1-2 cm. You can also now securely top-stitch the loop. This will prevent it from slipping during sewing. Superimpose the gym bag sections, finished side to finished side, and randomly secure them by pinning.

## 6. Sew the gym bag, incorporating the loops as you proceed.



- Start sewing along the upper edge, proceed for 4 centimetres and interlock securely. Start again approx. 3 centimetres below this and sew the side seam and the base, incorporating the loops as you go. Sew to and fro over the loops a few more times so that they are not dislodged when the bag is heavy.
- Once you have reached the other side seam, stop 7 centimetres before the end of the seam, leave an opening of 3 centimetres and close the end.

## 7. Serging the cord channel



- Iron the seam allowances apart and serge the opening to the channel by top-stitching once around the seam allowances.

## 8. Sewing the draw cord tightener



- Turn down the upper edge inwards 4-5 centimetres, iron the edge and securely top-stitch the draw cord tightener from the finished side.

## 9. Threading the cord through



- Cut your cord into two halves and thread it through the draw cord tightener and the loops. To do this, take a safety pin and pin it to one end. Then thread one of the cords completely through the draw cord tightener and through one of the loops. Repeat this step on the other side. Finally, knot the ends.

**ALL DONE!**

