

# Make your own Crane-Bag

A Crane-Bag is a magical bag that holds the most wonderful of treasures.

In Irish mythology Manannán Mac Lir made a Crane-Bag to hold all of his treasures and kept it in the sea. Its treasures were only visible at high tide.

You may have a bag that you would like to transform by decorating it to become a Crane-Bag.

If you would like to make one from the start there are many ways to do so. Perhaps you already have an idea how to make one. What you want to collect will direct how big or small you want it to be.

If you need some guidance here are two ways that may help.



The first bag here is simple and requires no sewing only cutting.

The second requires a bit more time and a bit of sewing.

If you really like making, why not try both?





# Crane-Bag

(Simple pouch)

What you will need:

1. Fabric
2. Scissors
3. Ribbon, twine or wool
4. A ruler
5. A marker or pencil
6. A large saucepan lid or plate to make a large circle



## Step 1

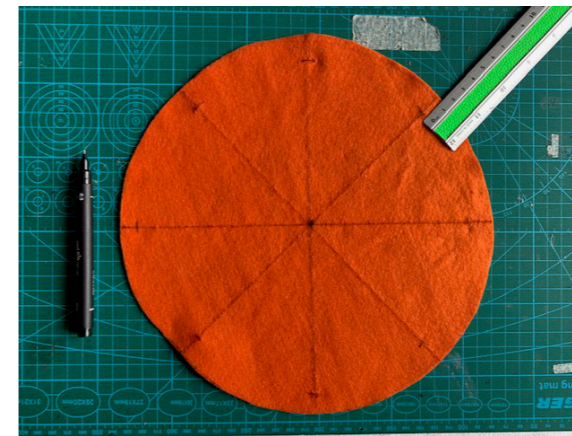
Lay out your fabric on a flat surface and place your large saucepan lid or large plate on top. Draw around it with your pencil. If your pencil or marker line is not visible you could try some chalk.

Cut out your circle.

## Step 2

Find the centre of your circle by folding the circle in half and then half again. The middle point will be the point of the triangle. Mark this point with your pencil.

Open out the fabric again.



## Step 3

You are going to make the circle look like it's a cake ready to be cut in pieces.

Mark a line from edge to edge and through the centre point with your ruler.

Make another line that is perpendicular to this line.

And another line that is half way between one segment, and a final line that is halfway between the final segment.

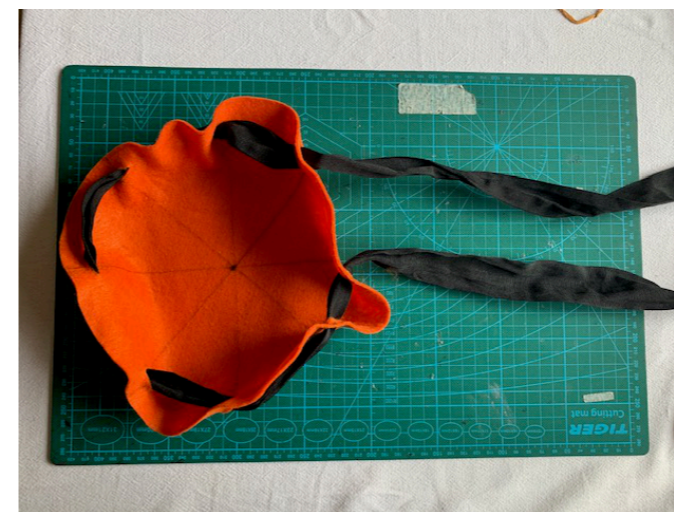
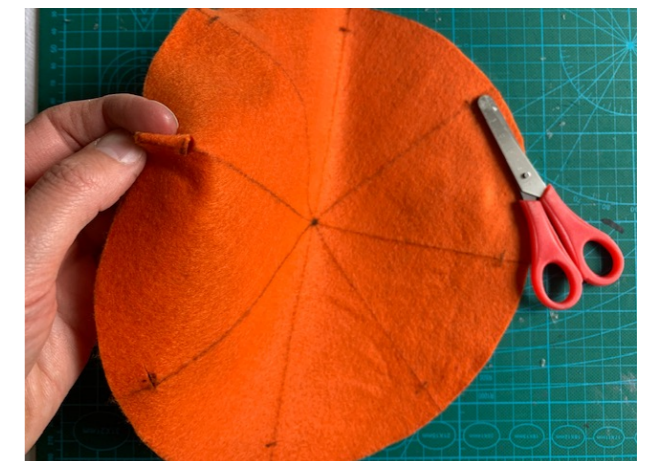
If your circle is very big you need to do more segments.

## Step 4

With your ruler make a little mark that is about a fingers width or 5cm in from the edge of the circle on all the segment lines.

This mark you will cut, just a little bit to make a little slit.

This is where you will thread the ribbon.



## Step 5

Now use your thread or wool to thread through the holes you have made. It doesn't matter where you start threading.

If you are using wool try plaiting it to make it very strong.

When you have the all the bag threaded with ribbon or wool, pull the ends of the ribbon or wool close in together. This will close the bag.

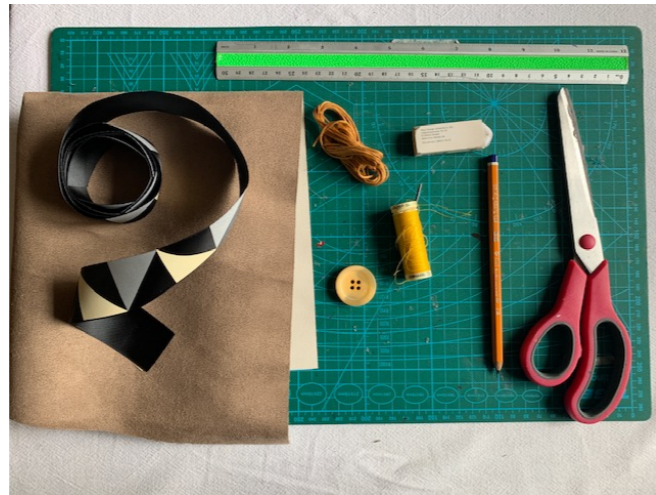
And hey, you've made your own Crane-bag! Now you can fill it with treasures.



# Crane-Bag

What you will need:

1. Fabric to make your bag
2. Ribbon
3. Scissors
4. Pencil and eraser (just in case)
5. A button
6. Needle and thread
7. Some wool or embroidery thread
8. A ruler



## Step 1

Lay out your fabric on a flat surface. Fold the fabric over on itself to make a type of envelope. Your aim is to see how the fabric can fold and make a bag the size you need. I folded my fabric to make a bag with a pouch size of 26cm x 24cm.

You will need a flap for the top so keep that in mind. My flap was 18cm long.

Use your ruler and pencil to draw a line that runs straight across the fabric from the bottom to the top.

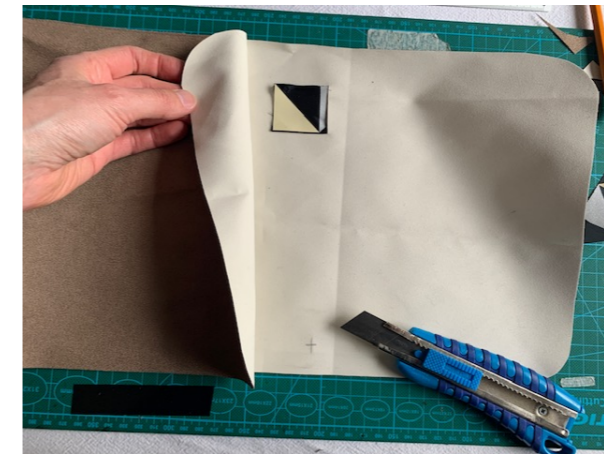
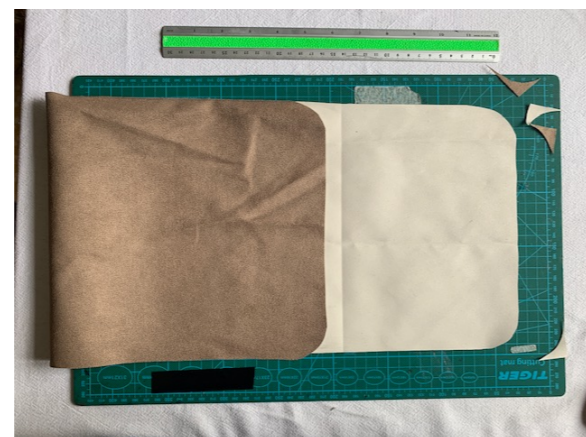
Cut along this line. You should now have a long piece of fabric.



## Step 2

Round the edges by cutting the corners off. This bit isn't necessary but I think it made my bag nice.

Sew all around the edge of the pouch part of the bag. Take your time and make it really nice and make sure the stitches aren't too big. If they are too big things might fall out through the gaps.



## Step 3

## Step 3

Make two cuts with your scissors where your strap will be. (I've used a knife here in my picture but you should probably use a scissors as its safer for children) .

I've made my cuts just under where the flap folds over.

Thread your ribbon or wool through the cuts and sew in place.

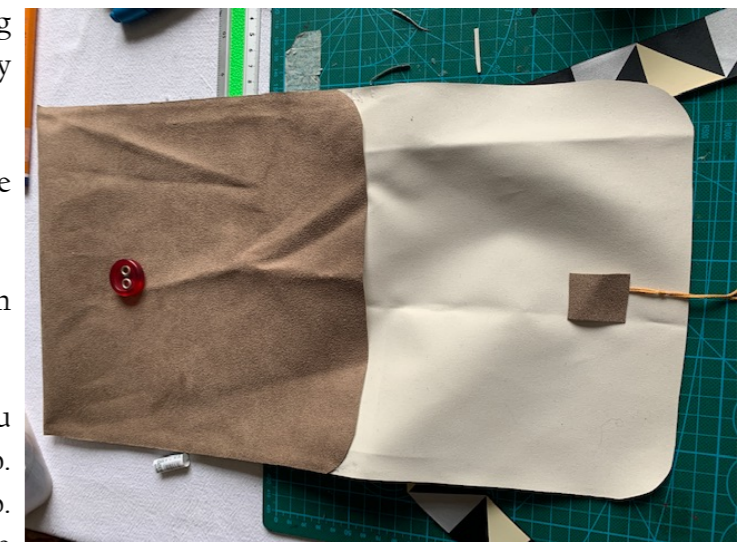
## Step 4

You're going to have to make a way to keep the bag closed. I've used a button and some embroidery thread.

Fold over the bag flap and see where it touches the main body of the bag.

Just below the flap place the button. Sew it in place.

Make a loop with your embroidery thread, or if you have some thin ribbon that would be great too. Sew the loop in place on the inside of the flap. Make sure the loop is long enough to reach the button. I have secured my loop with a square piece of fabric just in case the threads might come loose.



## Extra steps

You could decorate the outside of the bag with ribbon and perhaps even try to embroider it by drawing on it with your needle and thread.



When you are finished go and find the most wonderful treasures for your bag.

Happy treasure hunting!

