

TREADLE & SPOOL

The Clothesline Companion (Clothespin Bag)

grandma had one. now you do too.

from the sewing room at Granny Plants

What's inside:

- A classic hanging clothespin bag on a child-size hanger
- Three rectangles and one afternoon — sturdy enough for years on the line
- A front opening you can reach into one-handed, mid-hang
- Holds about 50 wooden pins with room to spare

Use sturdy cotton, canvas, or the good part of a worn-out pair of jeans. This bag lives outdoors on laundry day, so pick fabric with some backbone.

Materials, cutting & making

You'll need:

- 1/2 yard of sturdy cotton, duck, or canvas
- One child-size wooden hanger, about 12" wide

Cutting:

- Back panel: cut one 13" wide x 15" tall
- Front top panel: cut one 13" wide x 6" tall
- Front bottom panel: cut one 13" wide x 12" tall

1. Hem the opening edges.

On the front top panel, double-hem the BOTTOM edge. On the front bottom panel, double-hem the TOP edge. These two hemmed edges will overlap to make the reach-in opening.

2. Trace the hanger.

Lay the hanger on the back panel's top edge and trace its shoulder curve. Trim the top corners of the back panel to match. Do the same to the front top panel.

3. Layer it up.

Place the back panel right side up. Lay the front bottom panel on it right side DOWN, bottom edges matched. Lay the front top panel right side down at the top, curves matched — its hemmed edge overlapping the bottom panel's hemmed edge by about 2". Pin everything.

4. Sew around.

Sew the whole outside edge with a 1/2" seam — down the sides, across the bottom, and along the shoulder curves — leaving a 3/4" gap at the very top center for the hanger hook. Backstitch at the gap.

5. Turn and load.

Clip the corners, turn right side out through the front opening, and poke out the corners. Slide the hanger in through the front opening, feed the hook through the top gap, and fill her up with pins.

Granny's notes:

The overlapping front stays closed on the line, even in a Minnesota wind, but your hand slips right in. Hang it on the line and slide it along as you go — the whole point is never walking back for pins. A fun scrap project: the panels are small enough to cut from almost anything worth saving.