

Sew a Stocking

This pattern is a quick sew but is a great gift that looks festive and fantastic as well! You can customize your stockings in so many ways: add fringe to the cuff, leave off the cuff, add embroidery designs, add patches to the heel and toe, use fur for the cuff, etc.

These instructions are based on the free pattern download from [An Easy Christmas Stocking Pattern - Hooked on Sewing](#).

These instructions can be used any stocking pattern

Instructions

1. If you need a pattern, you can download one at the website above (or use your favorite). Assemble and cutout pattern pieces - taking care that any directional fabric will lay correctly when finished. (skip if you obtained a precut set of pieces).
2. You should then have
 - 2 pieces of fabric for the exterior of the stocking.
 - 2 pieces of lining.
 - 2 pieces of batting for the stocking
 - 1 rectangle cuff fabric (or 4 6-inch by 9-inch rectangles for the “elf” cuff)
 - 1 small rectangle for the hanging loop (2 1/2 x 6 inches)



3. Create stocking body
 - Place the batting on the **WRONG** side of the stocking exterior fabric. Secure with clips.



- Mark any quilting lines – either to the batting side or to the fabric side. If using the fabric side, the simplest way is to use a chalk, wax, or otherwise removable marker. The easiest quilting is to draw horizontal, vertical or diagonal lines about 2 inches apart and then sew (quilt) along those lines in the coordinating thread. If you marked the fabric side, remove the marks you made.
- Place stocking exterior right sides together Starting at the top, use a ½ inch seam allowance and stitch down the stocking and all the way back up to the other top edge. LEAVING the top open.



- Clip all curves, being careful not to go through the stitching. Turn right side out and press nice and flat, pushing out and smoothing the fabric around the heel and toes. Make sure that the stocking is fully turned to the seams.



- Place lining stocking fabric pieces right sides together up, lining up raw edges. Pin or clip in place. Leave an opening in the lining piece for turning the stocking right side out: starting at the top, use a ½ inch seam allowance and stitch down the stocking about 4 or 5", backstitch to secure your stitches. Leave a gap of 3-4 inches and continue sewing (secure your stitches at the beginning and end) all the way back up to the other top edge, just like you did with the exterior stocking fabric pieces. Again, do not stitch across the top of the fabric.



- Clip any curves, turn right sides out and press, making sure that the lining is fully turned all the way to the seams.



4. Create the Hanging loop

- Fold the loop piece in half with the raw edges even along the long edge.



- Sew with ½ inch seam allowance and trim



- Turn the “tube” right side out and press so the seam is in the middle of one side.



- Optional: sew a top stitch on either side along the pressed edges

5. Create the cuff (Note: For the “Elf” pointed cuff see the notes below.)

- Fold the rectangular cuff piece in half, right sides together, lining up the short edges. Stitch along the short edge using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press the seam open.



- Then fold the cuff in half with the wrong sides together, matching the long raw edge to create a circle. Press flat along the fold.



- Carefully sew a top stitch along the bottom folded edge about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the edge, for a nice, finished look

6. Assemble and finish

- With the right sides of the stocking body facing out. Slide the cuff over the stocking body, top raw edges matched and with the side seam of the cuff lined up with the back (heel) seam of the stocking. Pin or clip in place.



- Then take the loop and fold it in half with the raw edges even and the seam on the inside of the loop. Place the raw edges centered over the back/side seam of the cuff and stocking. Pin or clip in place.



- Using a basting stitch, sew about ¼ inch along the top to secure both the cuff and loop in place



- Turn the stocking inside out and leave the lining right sides facing out.
- Place the lining inside the stocking body, right sides together. Be sure to line up the side seams and have the toes/heels going the correct direction. Re-pin or re-clip all pieces together.



- Using a 1/2" seam allowance, stitch around the entire top edge of the stocking. Just take your time and stitch slowly over the loop. Trim the seam to 1/4".



- Turn right side out: Pull the lining out from inside the stocking,



then reach inside the opening you left in the lining to pull the stocking through.



Hand or machine stitch the opening in the lining closed. Press the whole thing again.



- Push the lining down into the stocking so that it goes all the way down to the toe. Smooth out the pieces along the top seam.



- Press well, especially along the top. Ta-da!!



Note:

1. If you are using directional fabric, be sure to cut the pieces so the fabric design orientation is correct.
2. Optional: You can also do an "understitch". The understitch will help the lining to lay flatter inside the stocking. To understitch, unfold the cuff and make sure the lining is smoothly inside the stocking. Stitch close to the seam along the top edge of the lining fabric. Then fold the cuff back down and press along the fold.
3. There are many possibilities for embellishing the cuff. Simple things like adding a border, embroidering, or adding trim. If you want to try something like the pointed "elf" style cuff the following **replaces Step 5 above. See the tutorial for the Elf stocking for more information:**
 - Use the 4 smaller rectangles instead of the one large rectangle. Trace dashed lines onto the wrong side of two of the cuff pieces only (free hand or use a template)
 - Place the two rectangular cuff (Pattern Piece B) pieces with the traced lines right sides together and stitch along the short sides with a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Do the same with the remaining cuff pieces. Press seams open. Turn the untraced cuff piece right side out.
 - Place the untraced cuff piece inside the traced cuff piece with right sides together and pin along the raw edges aligning the sides. Baste 1/4" along the bottom raw edge to keep these pieces from shifting and to provide the bottom line for the points.

- Sew along the lines you traced on to the back of the cuff pieces, being careful to not cross the basting line along the bottom. Trim off the triangle excess fabric below the stitched lines leaving about a 1/8" seam allowance.
- Clip into each top peak as close as you can without snipping through your stitches and clip each bottom point.
- Turn cuff right side out and push out each point with fingers and/or a turning tool (or chop stick). Press entire cuff well. Topstitch 1/8" along edges of the resulting triangles.
- Pick back up with Step above.