

SIMPLE DESIGN FOR CWS SCHOOL BAG

(revised March 25, 2008)

[Material should be precut to provide **one piece** approximately 30" long and at least 14" wide, **plus two strips** approximately 30" long and 4" wide – this will provide two pieces to make into the bag handles and one piece to be made into the bag.]

To make handles

1. Using one of the long narrow strips of cloth, fold and press $\frac{1}{2}$ " hems first on each end, then along each side; fold strip together with good side out, press, and top stitch across the one bottom, along the open side, then across the other bottom to form one handle. Set aside.
2. Repeat with second handle.

If web strips are being used for handles, just fold a $\frac{1}{2}$ " hem on each end before stitching to bag – no need to stitch hem.

To make bag

1. Using large piece, lay flat with wrong side up. Fold raw top and bottom edges over twice and press to make $\frac{1}{2}$ " hem on each end. Top stitch (or baste) to hold hem.
2. Fold top/bottom hem in half to find center. Add a finished handle to one end, laying each handle end 3" from the center; this will create an arm hole of about 6" between ends. Double top stitch hem, starting at the edge and sewing across the ends of handle as you go. Do this at top and bottom of hem (be sure handle is firmly attached). Repeat with second handle at other end of bag.
3. Fold the material in half top to bottom (now with handles attached) so the wrong side is out. Fold the joined raw edges over once to form $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam and sew a double stitch along outside edge. Repeat on opposite side. You should now have a wrong side out completed bag with the top open.
4. Turn finished bag inside out and press. Bag is now complete.