

How to Make a Cat Hammock

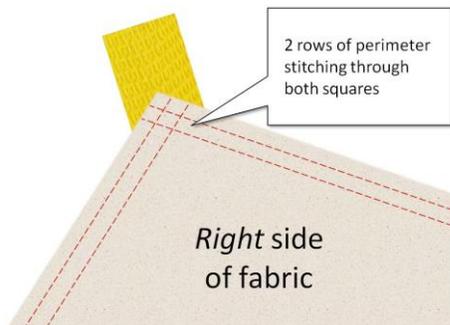
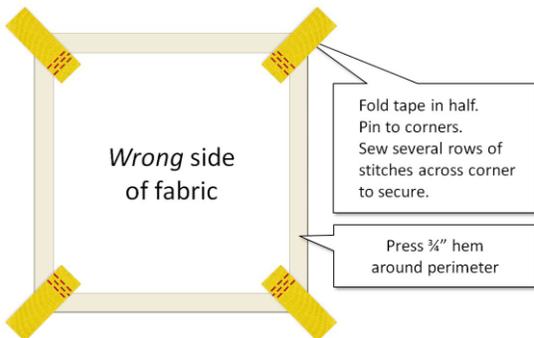


Materials

- Two squares of fabric cut $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches larger on all sides than the desired finished size. Tightly woven cotton/fleece fabrics work well. (Note: an extra 1 inch is included for shrinkage.)
- 20 inches of webbing ribbon or strong tape cut into four 5-inch lengths for loops.
- Optional: Batting cut the exact size of the desired finished size.

Steps

1) Press a $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hem on all sides of one square on the wrong side. If batting is used, baste this along the hem. Fold tape in half to form a loop and pin on wrong side of fabric in each corner. Sew several rows of stitches across the corners to secure the tape, as shown below.



2) Take the second square and press same $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hem on all sides as the first square.

3) Put the two squares together, wrong sides facing each other, pin in place and sew a line of stitches all around the perimeter as close to the edge as possible through both pieces of fabric.

Sew a second row of stitches about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the perimeter to ensure a strong bond of both fabrics.

About the size

At Marion County Animal Services, we have metal bar-style cages. Each cage is 24 inches deep and 24 inches high. The finished size of the hammock needs to reach the cage bars on four sides (not four corners – we don't want it to cover the entire cage) and include the distance between the eyehooks plus two inches for the carabiners.

The finished size of our "practice" hammock was 20 by 20 inches and worked well, but we can probably work with various sizes. The fabric needs to be launderable so that we may wash it and use it again for a new cat. We will supply the carabiners if the project becomes too costly for anyone. Don't have enough fabric? How about using a pillow case?



2-by-2 inch carabiners



We have 115 cages and take in thousands of cats each year. We would appreciate as many hammocks as you can make! Since we have to launder them, we'll need back-ups to use as we are rotating the laundry. Although it's a sad reality that shelters like ours receive so many homeless cats, we truly want to give them as much comfort as we can while they are in our care. We would be grateful to anyone who is willing to help with this donation project!

Contact us with any questions. Call 352-671-8700 or email us at animalservices@marioncountyfl.org.