



by Stacy Schlyer



They may not admit it, but even men like to receive hand-made gifts. So this year, why not make dad, boyfriend or brother a BBQ apron?

MATERIALS

- 1/8 yard of fabric
- 11/2 yard of cotton twill tape
- 2 extra-large-eye metal grommets
- 2 large-eye metal grommets
- Coordinating thread

- Scissors and/or rotary cutter and mat
- Water-soluble marking pen or tailor's chalk
- Ruler
- Iron

StepONe

Cut the Fabric

- Cut one 27" x 33" rectangle
- Cut one 4" x 27" rectangle for the neck strap
- Cut twill tape in half, creating two 27" pieces



StepTwo

Make Neck Strap

Fold the 4" x 27" rectangle in half lengthwise, right sides together. Stitch around the long open edge and the short ends with a ½" seam allowance, leaving a 2" opening along the long side for turning.



Clip the corners and turn the strap right side out, poking out the corners if necessary. Press.



Topstitch around all four sides of the strap, 1/8" from the edges. Set strap aside.



Step Three

Cut the Apron Shape

On one short end of the 27" x 33" rectangle, make a mark 7" from the edge of fabric. Repeat for the opposite side. You now have two marks on the top edge of your fabric.



Make a mark 15" from the top edge of your fabric. Using your ruler, connect the mark on the top edge with the mark you just made, creating a triangle. Repeat for second side.

Using your scissors or a rotary cutter and mat, cut along the marked lines on each side of the rectangle.



Step Four

Hem the Apron Edges

Fold under ½" along the edges just cut; press. Fold under ½" again, creating a finished edge. Don't be concerned if your folded material does not meet the raw edges of the apron sides—this is normal. Stitch close to the folded edges.



Fold under ½" along the apron sides; press. Fold under ½" again, creating a finished edge. Stitch in place.



Fold under ½" along the bottom edge of the apron; press. Fold under ½" again, creating a finished edge. Stitch in place.



Fold under 1" along the top edge of the apron; press. Fold under 1" again, creating a finished edge. Stitch in place.



Step Five

Grommets

Make marks along the top edge of the apron, 1" from the finished edges. Place extra-large grommets (2) over these marks, following the manufacturer's directions.



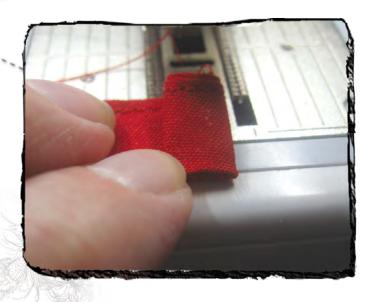
Make marks along the side edge of the apron, ½" from the finished edges. Place smaller grommets (2) over the marks, following the manufacturer's directions.



Insert the ends of the neck strap through the extra-large grommets, back to front. Knot the ends so the strap does not slip through.



Finish one end of each piece of cotton twill tape by folding under ½", folding under again ½", and stitching the folds in place.



Insert the unfinished ends through the smaller grommets, back to front. Knot the ends so they do not pull through.





