

HANDCRAFTS MONTHLY



APRIL GATHERINGS

Gathering - April 8

April 8, 10:00 to noon at Sewing World, Upstairs classroom, 136 71 Ave. SE
If you wish, please bring along a snack to share. Remember to park in the rear and to mention us when you shop.

Gathering - April 24

April 24, 10:00 to noon at Jan Geggie's - 1143 Varsity Estates Rise NW. Off Crowchild trail, turn west onto 53 St NW. Turn left onto Varsity Estates Dr NW. Take the 1st right onto Varsity Estates Rd NW. Take the 1st left onto Varsity Estates Rise NW. 1143 is on the right.

APRIL at a glance

April 8

Gathering, 10:00 AM to noon at Sewing World

April 17, 18

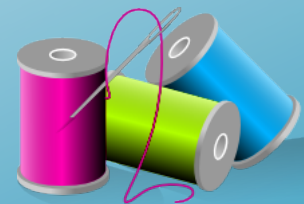
Annual Fabric Sale Donation Days. Details on the web site.

April 20

Annual Fabric Sale. Details on the web site.

April 24

Gathering, 10:00 AM to noon at Jan Geggie's.



NEWS FROM HANDCRAFTS COMMITTEE

PETS product custodian update

We have not found a custodian for PETS products so we will not carry a diverse line of pet products this year. If we receive pet products - like mice, for instance - they will go into home decor or as appropriate.

Wondering who's who on Handcrafts Committee?

Handcrafts Committee is comprised of ten members and each of us has a specific role. Here is a list of who's who so if you have a question you will know to whom to talk. Or email message@ujamaagrandmas.com. Just put Handcrafts or the appropriate name in the subject line to be sure it gets redirected properly.

Chair and BB&B Co-ordination - Sharon Kimmel
Secretary - Dawn Bolger

Workshops and demos - Liz Leroux

Fabric custodian - Joyce Goddard
Yarn custodian - Janice McDonald

Book Bags - Ellen Monaghan
Children - Roz Cooper-Key
Home Decor - Barb Doll
Purses and Bags - Leslie Buckle
Wearable Accessories - Patty Cucman



Soakers - They're Back!

Many new, environmentally-conscious mothers are preferring to use cloth diapers and wool, felted and lanolized covers are all the rage.



Diane brought along two samples of her soakers to a gathering last November. She used gross-grain ribbon and i-cord through the tops to hold them in place and the wee one on the bottom of this photo has needle-felted, multi-colored polkadots. Cute, cute.

If you are interested in trying a few, we have posted patterns on line on the [HANDCRAFTS](#) page under Workshop Notes and Patterns. We have permission to sell products made with these patterns. If you use another pattern please ask for permission to sell from the designer. Get more general soaker info [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

Thumbs up for centre pull balls.

If you are like me, you have a stash of yarn hanks but you would rather have centre pull balls or cakes that stay put as you work but you don't have one of those fabulous \$50 ball winders.

Well, keep your wallet in your purse. Go to your recycling bin and get an empty toilet tissue roll and then check out this [VIDEO](#) of how to wrap a centre pull ball or cake.



You can use this same technique using your thumb or other suitably cylindrical object. It is very clever and you will wonder why you didn't think of this before.

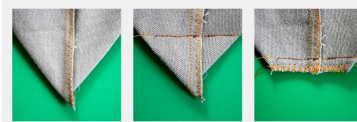
Gift Bags - Joyce's instructions.

These gift bags always sell well and we often have kits at gatherings but here are the instruction so you can raid your own stash and whip some up. Each bag uses two pieces as follows:

- Small: 11 to 13" x 16 to 18"
- Med - 12 to 14" x 20 to 22"
- Large - 14 to 16" x 22 to 25"
- Wine bag - 6.5 x 17 to 18"
- All seam allowances are 1/4 inch.



1. Begin by finishing all the edges with zig zag or serger.
2. Lay the two pieces with right sides together and sew with a 1/4 inch seam, backstitching at each end. Press seams open.
3. Sew the bottom seam, backstitching at each end.
4. To make mitered corners on the bottom of the bag, pull out the sides on both sides of the seam allowance making little points. Measure the miter line up from the point using measurements as follows: Small - 2", Med - 3", Large - 4", Wine bag - 1". Sew perpendicular to the side seams on both sides. trim if you wish.



5. Turn the bag right side out. Press under 1/4 inch around top edge. Turn a hem as follows: Small and wine bag - 1", Med - 2", Large - 3". Press in place but do not sew yet.
6. Drawstring - buttonhole closure: Pull the hems out flat and make a buttonhole on a centre vertical line making sure it will fit inside the intended stitching lines for the casing. The buttonhole size should accommodate the cord or ribbon being used.
7. Fold the hem in place and stitch the top and lower lines for the casing.
8. Thread the cord or ribbon through the casing and secure with a few stitches at the centre back. **DONE!**
9. OR Tie the cord or ribbon omitting steps 6 & 7. Sew the hem in place and fasten the tie at the centre back. Done again!