

Section 7 - Tool Envelope

Envelopes

Tool envelope

This is a portable 'kit' to organize and store tools, supplies or other items all together in one convenient place.

All you need are scraps of Sunbrella, Dacron and clear vinyl, and maybe some bits of centerfold binding.

The envelope opens out flat like a book to display the items inside. The items are stored in clear vinyl pockets so it is easy to see what's inside. There is a seam down the center 'spine' to separate the two sides of the pockets. Flaps of Sunbrella fold in toward themselves, then the whole kit is folded along the spine and closed with snaps or Velcro.



Step 1 – Cut a piece of Sunbrella the desired size of the tool pouch. See Fig 7-80 for the pieces to cut out.

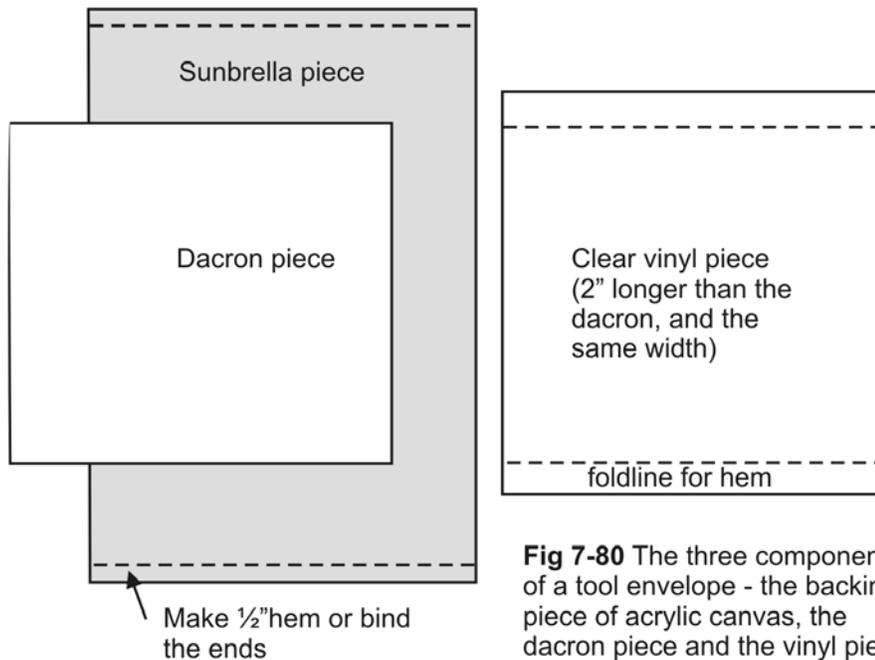


Fig 7-80 The three components of a tool envelope - the backing piece of acrylic canvas, the dacron piece and the vinyl piece.

Canvas for Cruisers

Make a 1/2" hem or bind the ends of the Sunbrella piece. (Fig 7-81)

Step 2 – Cut a piece of Dacron to act as a 'background' for the storage pockets. The Dacron piece is the same width as the Sunbrella piece, and not as long. This is because one of the Sunbrella 'overhangs' will become a flap when the envelope is folded up onto itself, and the other flap will cover over the pockets.

Apply seamstick all around the outside edges of the Dacron.

Place the Dacron on the Sunbrella piece as shown in Fig 7-81. Stitch it to the Sunbrella at the top and bottom edges.

*Note – this pouch is meant to close with snaps. See Fig 7-82. If you want to use Velcro instead, then mark out where the divisions are to go (if any) for the pockets.

For pockets where the Velcro loops are directly underneath the hooks, stitch small pieces of Velcro onto the Dacron to hold the pocket closed – before you stitch on the clear vinyl. And stitch Velcro loops to the Sunbrella side so the large flap can hold the kit closed when it is folded up.

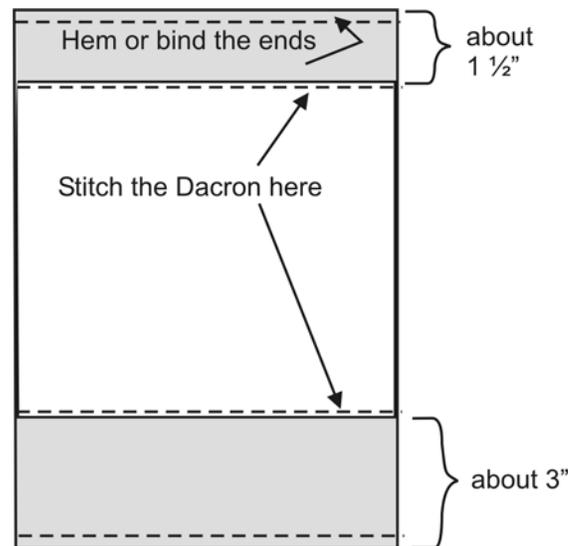


Fig 7-81 Place the dacron on the canvas and stitch.

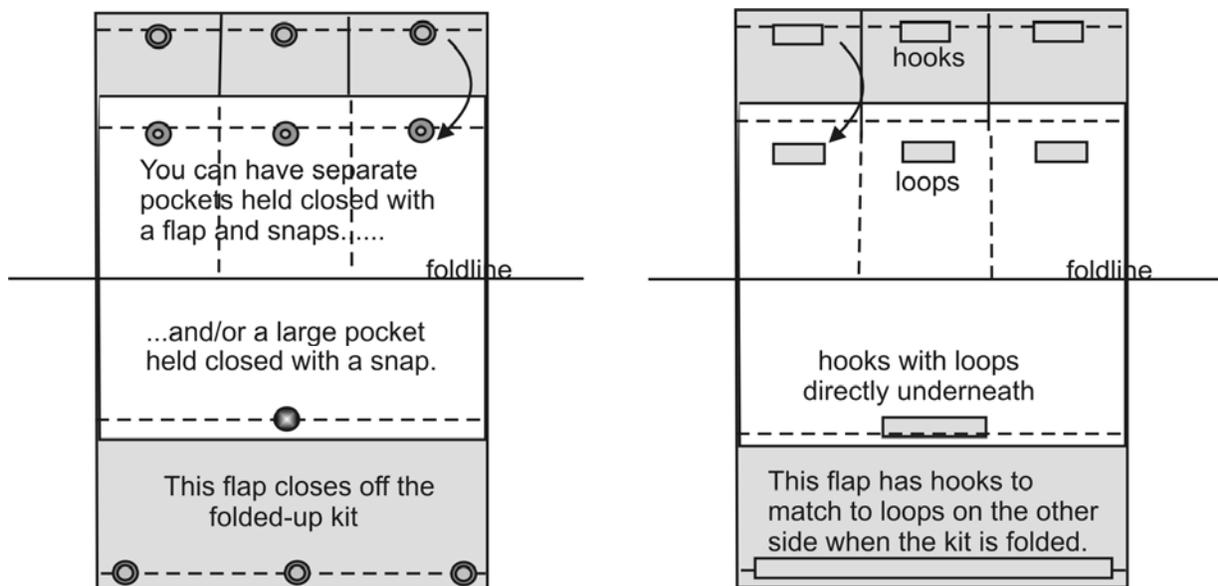


Fig 7-82 The whole kit folds in half and is held closed with snaps, velcro or even ties.

Section 7 - Tool Envelope

Step 3 – Cut out a piece of clear vinyl the same width as the Dacron but 2” longer. Fold a 1” single hem at each end so that it is the same size as the Dacron piece. Stitch & topstitch.

Again, if you are using Velcro, mark the positions required, and stitch on Velcro hooks to the clear vinyl. (Fig 7-83).

Step 4 – Apply ¼” seamstick to the very edges of the Dacron, and stick down the vinyl *wrong* side down on top of the Dacron (Fig 7-84).

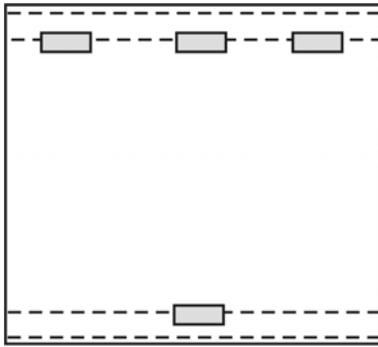


Fig 7-83 Cut out a piece of clear vinyl to width, but 2” longer. Make a 1” single hem in each end. Stitch on velcro if that is the fastening you are using.

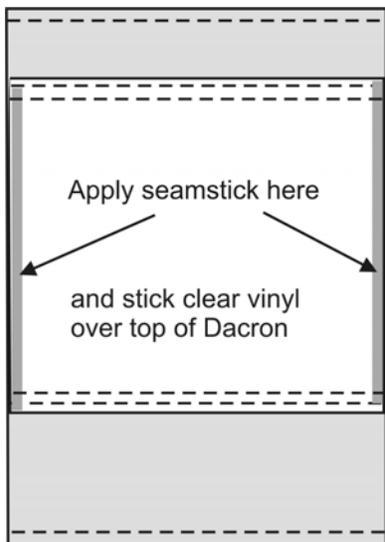


Fig 7-84 Apply seamstick to the very edges, and stick clear vinyl over top of the Dacron

Stitch close to the raw edges to hold the three layers – (Sunbrella, Dacron and clear vinyl) together (Fig 7-85).

Stitch binding to both side edges to finish them off (Fig 7-86). If you don't happen to have any centerfold binding, you can use flat binding or 1” webbing.

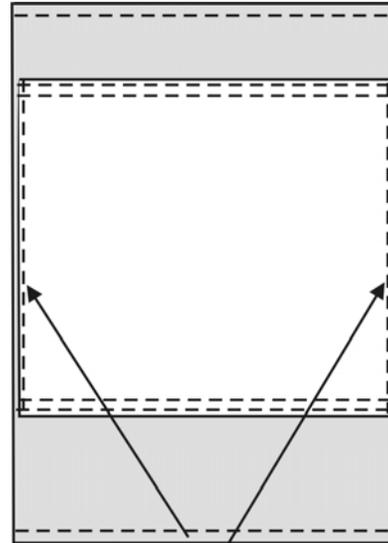


Fig 7-85 Stitch close to edges

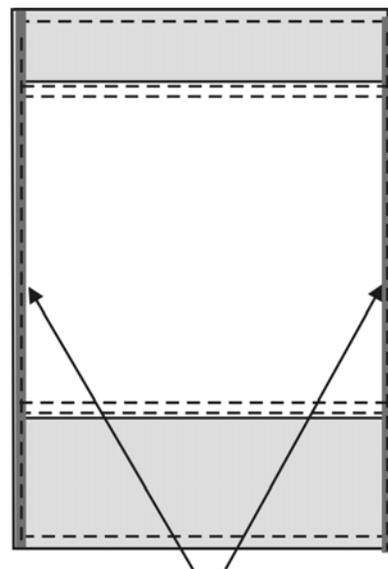


Fig 7-86 Bind these edges

Canvas for Cruisers

Step 5 – Stitch the assembly down the middle through all thicknesses – this is the fold-in-half-line. (Fig 7-87)

If you want pocket divisions, mark these on the vinyl with grease pencil and stitch through all thicknesses. (Fig 7-87)

With a hot knife, slit the Sunbrella pocket flaps just down to the vinyl, along the pocket lines if desired. This will enable you to open one little pocket and still keep the others closed.

Step 6 – Install snaps to hold the pockets closed. (Fig 7-88). Close the pockets. Fold the kit along its centerline and fold the other flap over it to keep it closed. Install snaps.

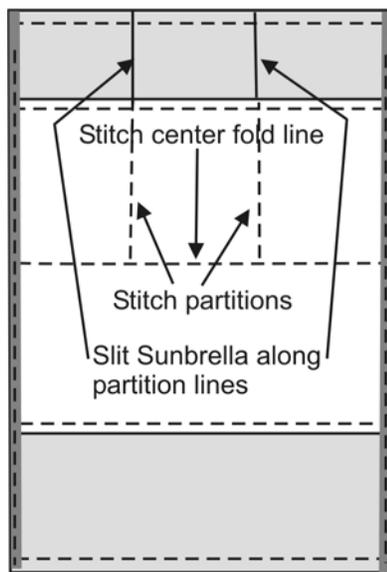


Fig 7-87 Stitch center fold line and partitions. Slit Sunbrella flaps if desired.

The tool envelope idea can be modified any way you want to accommodate any custom storage requirements.

For example, you can have a storage envelope arrangement which folds in thirds. Or you can make a storage roll, as I did to store all the fid tools for splicing lines – the little skinny pockets fit all the various fids, and I roll it all up and tie it closed with leech lines.

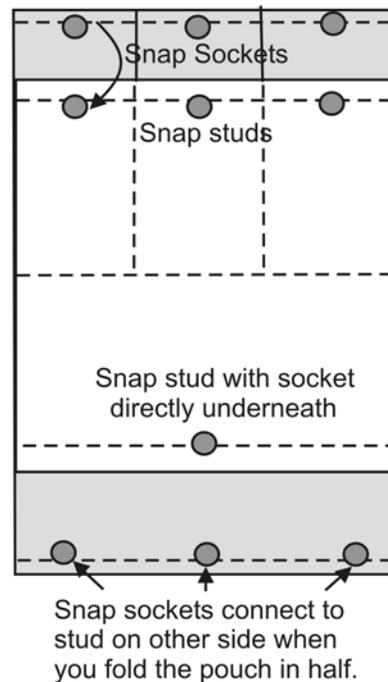


Fig 7-88 Install snaps to close partitions and flaps.

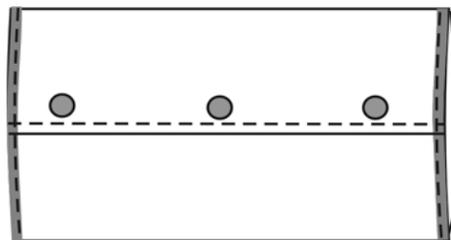


Fig 7-89 The storage envelope all closed up.