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created by Susan Beck

materials and tools

- · One tea towel, about 16" x 26"
- Two 10" pieces of 1/4"-wide elastic
- One 10" piece of narrow ribbon
- Matching thread
- Clear ruler
- Fabric marker
- All-purpose presser foot (BERNINA Reverse Pattern Foot #1/1C/1D or Clear Foot #34/34C/34D)

Are dozens of plastic grocery bags

Grocery Bag Saver

cluttering your kitchen? Hang this super-simple bag saver in your pantry to keep them contained while making sure they're handy when you

need them.



step one

Mark a line across each end of the towel about 1½" from the edge of the towel to use as a placement guide for the elastic. Note: If the towel has a horizontal stripe or pattern, omit the marking and select a line close to 11/2" from the edge.



step two

Attach the all-purpose foot to the machine. Select the Universal stitch; set the width at 5.5mm and the length at 3mm. Note: A zigzag stitch can also be used.













Grocery Bag Saver

step three

Thread one piece of elastic through the needle slot of the foot and pull it out the back. Place the towel under the foot, positioning the needle on one of the drawn lines. Sew along the line and stretch the elastic as you sew. The stitch will go across the elastic, holding it in place as it gathers the edge of the towel. Repeat with the second piece of elastic at the other end of the towel.



step four

Fold the towel wront sides together and match the long edges. Stitch the seam from the lower edge to the upper edge, positioning the side of the presser foot along the side hem of the towel.



step five

Fold the ribbon in half to form a loop and position it just above the elastic at the upper edge of the towel. Stitch it to the towel.



step six

To use, simple push plastic bags into the saver through one end and pull them out one at a time when you need them. The ribbon loop can be put over a hook or nail for hanging.

