

# Fused Plastic Grocery Sack Recycled Material:

## Supplies:

- Plastic bags (thin, flimsy ones work best)
- Plain copier paper (white, 20 # printer paper)
- Iron (and your favorite ironing surface)

*Open a window when you do this to avoid any fumes.*

## Preparation:

1. Flatten out the bag and trim the bottom seam and handles off. This allows the bag to be opened up into a larger tube of plastic. Lay this out flat so it is two layers. Turn the bag inside-out if it has printing on it. Once the ink heats up, it comes off the bag and makes a huge mess.
2. 8 layers of plastic gives the best results. So, you can either fold your bag twice until it is 8 ply thick, or use four bags layered on top of one another.
3. Sandwich plastic bags between copier paper by covering enough of work surface to lay out bags (usually 4-6 pieces of 8 1/2" X 11" paper) then lay bags out flat and cover with more copy paper.
4. Next, run a hot iron (I start out with mine on silk and go up from there but you'll need to experiment a little to see what works for you) and keep the iron moving constantly. Make sure to get the edges.
5. Peel a corner of the paper back to see if plastic is fused together, i.e. fairly smooth in one sheet. If the layers are not all melted together, iron it some more.
6. Peel the paper away from the finished plastic sheet. This stuff cuts and stitches like a dream!



## What you can make from your sheet of fused plastic....

**BookMark:** Cut a piece of the fused plastic about 1 1/2" X 7". Cut two pieces of fabric just a little bigger. Layer one fabric Right Side Down, the plastic, and fabric RS up. Pin if desired. Do a little decorative stitching with rayon thread to secure. Trim fabric to size of plastic. Zigzag stitch around edges, first with a narrow long stitch, then wider, shorter stitch, and the third time around stitch a wide, very short stitch to form a nice edge.

**Reversible Bracelet Cuff:** Cut plastic about 2" X 9" and two different pieces of fabric a little bigger. Layer one fabric Right Side Down, the plastic, and fabric RS up. Pin if desired. Do some decorative stitching with different rayon threads to secure. Trim fabric to size of plastic. Zigzag stitch around edges, first with a narrow long stitch, then wider, shorter stitch, and the third time around stitch a wide, very short stitch to form a nice edge. Add a 3/4" square of sticky loop tape to one end on one side of cuff, and another piece about 3/4" X 1 1/2" at the other end on the other side to complete your bracelet cuff. **VARIATION:** Cut a piece of fabric long enough to fit comfortably around your dog or cat's neck. Use fabric representing 2 different holidays to make a reversible decorative pet collar. Not to be used with a leash!



**Wallet:** The wallet needs three pieces of plastic: 7" X 7", 3" X 7" and 2 1/2" X 7" as well as two pieces of fabric for each piece of plastic, just a little bigger than the plastic. For each section, layer one fabric Right Side Down, the plastic, and fabric RS up. Pin if desired. Do some decorative stitching with different rayon threads to secure. Trim fabric to size of plastic. Zigzag stitch around edges, first with a narrow long stitch, then wider, shorter stitch, and the third time around stitch a wide, very short stitch to form a nice edge.

Add a 3/4" X 1 1/4" piece of sticky loop tape centered at the top of the 7" square and one at the bottom of the 2 1/2" X 7" rectangle as shown at right. Then layer all pieces with the square on the bottom then the 3" then the 2 1/2" piece and zig zag them together around the three edges they share. That's it! The wallet is complete!



*There is no end to what can be done with this wonderful stuff!*