

Hooded Towel

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The following instructions are for the basic hooded towel. From this you may add to the towel to make it into characters such as a duckie, ladybug, frog, piggy, dog, etc. Let your imagination be your guide.

Preparation:

If you are using two towels, each a different color, it is strongly suggested that you pre-wash the towels. Strong dark colors such as black can fade onto lighter colors. It is not necessary to pre-wash any of the other materials.

Supplies:

- 1 hand-towel
- 1 bath-towel or bath-sheet
- 1 spool of all purpose thread to match (100% polyester works the best)

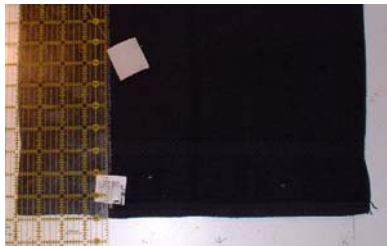
Tools:

- Sewing machine
- Size 90/14 sewing machine needle
- Scissors
- Ruler (a 6 by 24 inch clear plexi-glass ruler works the best)
- Tailors' chalk (white for dark colors, blue for light colors)

Directions

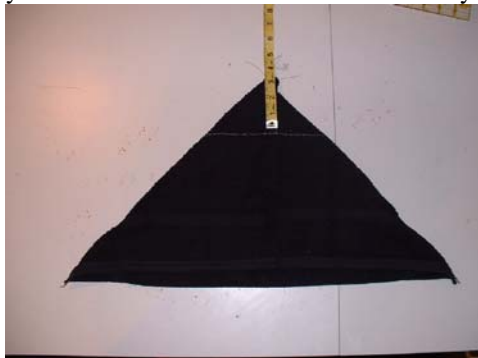
Constructing the hood:

1. Take the hand-towel and fold it in half with the label on the outside. Measure 4 inches from the edge perpendicular from the fold and draw a line. You will be stitching on this line with a 3 mm (6-8 stitches per inch) stitch length.



Trim off excess, leaving a 1/2 inch seam allowance.
Using a zig-zag stitch or a serger, overcast the seam allowance.

2. Fold the hood into a triangle with the seam you've just sewn running lengthwise down the center of the triangle. From the top point of the triangle, measure 3 inches down and draw a line. This line you will sew on to shape the hood. Once this seam is sewn, you will not trim off the excess. It will stay on the inside of the hood, not affecting the look or style of the hood.



Finished hood size: There is no standard size for hand-towels. Generally, the more expensive a towel is, the larger it is- cheaper towels are smaller. When we trim off the towel for the size we're making, use the following as your guide:



This is a better example of a hand towel. The band at the bottom of the picture is what we use as a reference point when trimming the towel to size.

Infant: Trim the towel at the top of the band

Toddler: Trim the towel at the bottom of the band

Child: Trim the towel at the hemline, trimming off the edge that forms the hem. On some towels there is a folded and stitched hem- this is what is trimmed off. If there is a hem similar to the finish on the long sides of the towel, there is no need to trim.

If it is necessary for you to trim your towel, finish the edge by zig-zagging or serging.

At this point you are ready to "characterize" your towel. Add the eyes and other features to the hood at this point. The seam in the hood will run down the center back of the wearer and the edge you have trimmed and finished will run along the shoulders.

Attaching the hood to the bath towel/bath sheet:

Fold the bath towel in half, hem to hem and place a pin in the fold indicating the mid-point. See example below:



Place the bath towel, label side down. With the hood seam facing up match the seam to the bath towel midpoint. Pin the edges together.



Sew a straight stitch using a 5/8 inch seam allowance across the length of the hand-towel-hood.

Picture illustrates the hood attached to the bath towel. Note how the band runs horizontal to the child's shoulders.



To finish, press the seam up toward the top of the hood and stitch in place.

