The Undercover Crate ™

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A snazzy way to cover up your ugly crates or boxes.

This pattern is for a storage crate measuring: 10 1/2"H x 13 3/4"W x 15 1/4"L. If you would like to cover a rectangular crate, box, or basket of a different size, use the instructions on the last page to customize your pattern.

Supplies:
* Storage crate
* Outside fabric 1/2 yard
* Inside fabric 1 1/4 yard (I used muslin)
* Matching thread
* (optional) 2 Button Top Brads, (See my tutorial @ www.paintinmyhair.com)

Side B (9")

Outside Fabric (cut 2)

Side A (29 1/2")

Side C (29 1/2")

Side D (20 3/4")

Inside Fabric (cut 2)

Side E 6 3/4"

Side F 6 3/4"

Paper Pattern

To use when "boxing" the corners in step 4

Step 1
Cut two rectangles (9" X 29 1/2") of outside fabric.
Cut two rectangles (20 3/4" X 29 1/2") of inside fabric.
Cut a square (6 3/4" X 6 3/4") of paper, for paper pattern.

side B

side A

side c

side D

Step 2
Using a 1/4" seam allowance, sew side A to side C (right sides together), making one large panel. Repeat for both sets of rectangles.

Step 3
With right sides together sew three sides of the two large panels together to make a sack, with the "outside" fabric along the top of the sack.
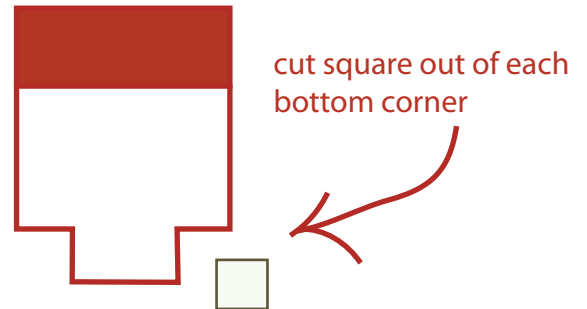
Bottom corner of "sack"

Step 4
Now your going to "box" the corners:
Lay your "sack" out flat, right sides together. Match your paper pattern with one of the bottom corners of the "sack." Trace the pattern and cut out, cutting through both layers of fabric. (See diagram below).

cut square out of each bottom corner

Step 5
Now, separate the two layers of fabric by holding the inside corner of each layer and pulling them in opposite directions. The side seem will now line up with the bottom seem, down the center. Pin in place and sew across raw edge using 1/4" seem allowance. (Study the pictures below to understand this step better.)

Inside corner

Sew along this edge.

Inside corners after pulling appart

The side seem and bottom seem are now lined up, down the center.

Step 6
Repeat steps 4 and 5 for other bottom corner of sack

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Step 7
Press the raw edge at the top of the "sack" about a half inch under and then a half inch under again, forming the hem. Sew the hem 1/4 inch from the edge.

Step 8
Slip "sack" over the crate, lining up the hem with the bottom of the crate and the side seems on the sides of the crate.

Step 9
At this point you can leave it as it is or secure it with a button, velcro, or a covered brad. (See my covered brad tutorial.) I just poked the brad through both layers of fabric, in between gaps in the crate. I did this on the front and back of the crate.
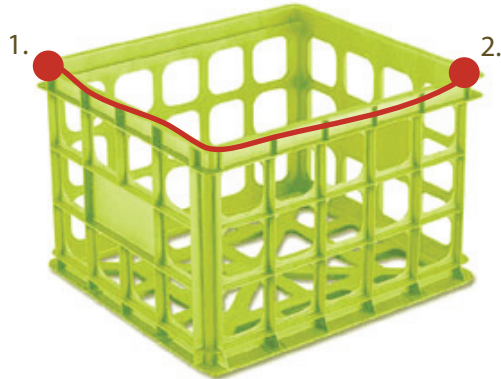
Simply remove the brad to throw in the wash!

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How to customize you pattern:

Follow these instruction to customize this pattern to almost any size rectangular crate, box, or basket. Refer to the diagram on page one to substitute your measurements for mine. (All my measurements are in inches.)

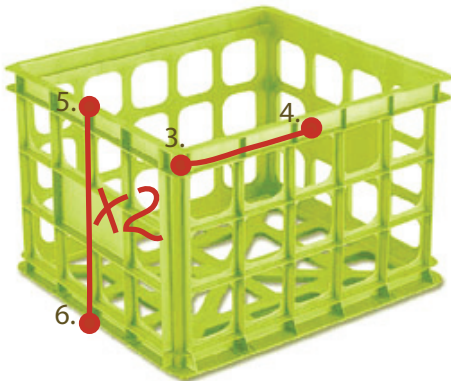Make sure you have a tape measure, a pen and paper, and (if you're like me) a calculator.
Note: If it's easier you can round your measurements to the nearest1/4 inch measurement. (I did)

To determine side A:
 Measure from corner 1 to corner2.
 Add 1/2 of an inch.

To determine side B:
 Side B is always 9 inches

Side C is the same as side A

To determine side D:
This is where it gets a bit tricky. But you can do it!
* Measure the height of the crate (point 5 to point 6).
Double it and write it down.
* Measure along half of the longest side of the crate
(point 3 to point 4).
* Add that to the number you just wrote down. OK,
are you with me? Did you write that down?
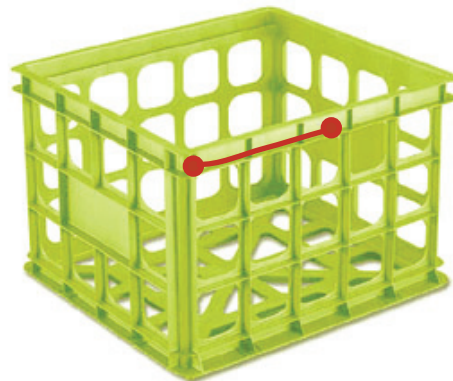* Now subtract 7 3/4 inches from that number.

In other words:

(height X 2   +   half the length) - 7 3/4

To determine side E:
Measure along half of the longest side
of the crate. From that measurement,
subtract 3/4".

Side F is the same as side E.

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