

DO IT YOURSELF PACKET

Enrichment & Comfort
Items for Wildlife



**Thank you for your interest in helping the animals at
San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife!**

We would not be able to provide the level of care and commitment to our animals without the help of people like you. This Do-It-Yourself packet outlines several fun projects that range from easy to more advanced. They all help the animals have a more enriched experience while going through their rehabilitation process in our care.

Verification of Hours:

A Volunteer Log is included on the next page if needed for service hours. Please bring the completed log when dropping off items at the shelter and an employee will verify and sign for the service hours. To request a hours verification letter, please email a copy of your log to volunteercenter@sdhumane.org.

Item Drop Off:

You may drop off items at any of our campuses Tuesday-Sunday from 10:00am-6:00pm:

Ramona

18740 Highland Valley Road
(Drop-off 9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

San Diego

5500 Gaines Street

El Cajon

1373 N. Marshall Ave.

Escondido

3500 Burnet Drive

Oceanside

572 Airport Rd



Volunteer Hours Log

Please list all volunteer hours completed. We will sign off on up to 15 hours of service each month.

Your Name: _____

Email: _____

Date	Time	Task	Please explain how you completed this project
		TOTAL HOURS	Thank you for volunteering!

Staff Use Only

San Diego Humane Society Acknowledgment of Donation/Service:

Signature: _____

Printed name and title: _____ Date: _____

SMALL MAMMAL POUCH

Used for wildlife patients, especially babies, to make them feel safe and minimize stress. The pouch is enclosed on three sides, making a bag. It should take approximately 15 – 30 minutes to make!

Materials:

- Fabric
 - o **Suggested fabrics:** Flannel, cotton, fleece or other tight-woven strong fabrics are all good to use. We use these fabrics to avoid catching toes during burrowing.
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Sewing Supplies (needle, thread and/or sewing machine)

Instructions:

1. Cut Fabric:

Cut two equal-sized rectangles. The final pouch will have the same width and half the length as the rectangles (minus seam allowances).

You can make pouches of ANY size, but an average pouch will be 6-8" wide x 12-16" long.

2. Fold Fabric:

Fold the rectangles in half, right sides together. (Right side is the side you eventually want to show. For printed fabric, the patterned side is the right side.)

The fold will be the bottom of the sack, and the opposite open end will be the top-entry of the sack.

3. Sew Sides:

Sew the sides together. For a stronger hold, sew small stitches and double-back on the sides closest to the fold.



4. Invert One Bag:

Invert one bag (doesn't matter which) so it is right-side out. For fabric without a print, the seam is on the wrong side and hidden on the right side.



5. Stack the Bags:

Stack the two bags with right-sides together, so that seams are on the outside and inside of the new lined bag.



6. Sew Top Edge:

Sew the top edge of the pouches together, leaving a small opening. The opening needs to be big enough to pull fabric through -- a few inches is usually good.

7. Pull Fabric Through:

Pull the fabric through the opening left in the top seam. Finish pulling the fabric through the opening in the top seam. At this point, all the right sides are exposed (prints and no seams).

8. Hand Sew Opening Closed:

Hand-sew the last opening closed. As this is the weakest point in the bag, keep an eye on it over time to make sure it doesn't unravel.

For more detailed instruction, visit Instructables [here](#).



GREY FOX HOOD

Hoods are used in wildlife rehab on higher stress patients during examination and treatment; they help to make animal feel more secure when being handled.

Notes: All stitches are straight running stitches. You can back stitch for stronger seams. Pattern can be modified to increase or decrease size of nose hole. It is designed for a grey fox.

Materials:

- 24 inches of ribbon – 5/8 inch ribbed works well
- 2 pieces of colorful fabric at least 10" by 10"
 - o Fabric should be plain cotton/poly blend. This stands up well to washing
- 2 pieces of black fabric at least 10" by 10"
- Sewing Supplies: thread, hand sewing needle, pins, sewing machine for speed and strength
- Other supplies: scissors, Post-It, iron

1. Fold fabric

Fold your colorful fabric so you have two layers. Pin the pattern to both layers. Cut out the pattern. Repeat with black fabric. You should end with 4 pieces of fabric.



2. Sew pattern

Pin the colorful fabric together, so the bring sides are facing each other on the inside. Starting 1.5 inches from the top, sew both sides top to bottom with $\frac{5}{8}$ inch seam allowance and leaving the nose hole open in the bottom. It will seem like the nose hole is too small, but it is not. Repeat with the black fabric. You should end with two identical sets of sewn fabric.



3. Sew pieces together

Trim the edges of the seams for the nose in both pieces. Turn the black fabric inside out so the seams are inside. Put the black section inside the colorful section, right sides together. Hand sew the fabrics together at the nose, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch from the raw edge of the fabric.



4. Flip fabric right side out

Trim the seam edges of the nose and turn the fabric right side out. Tuck the black side into the colorful side. The nose will have finished seams and no seams will be touching the animal's face. Hand stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch up from the turned edge of the nose to hold the sides together around the nose.



5. Prepare ribbon casing

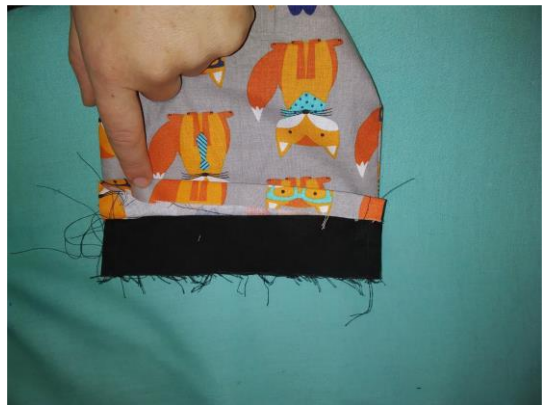
Where you left the 1.5 inch space at the top of the pattern, sew each raw edge to form a finished seam. Turn the raw edges so that the finished side will be by the finished side. Do not sew them to each other. This will form the casing for the ribbon. You will sew 8 small seams.

6. Sew ribbon casing

1.5 inches down from the top, sew straight around the top of the hood. Use a Post-It to mark 1.5 inches from your needle to make it easier. You will be stitching the colorful fabric to the black fabric. Fold fabric over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the top and iron. Sew black to colorful at the top $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from ironed edge. This forms the ribbon casing.

6. Sew ribbon casing

Cut two pieces of ribbon, about 8-10 inches. Thread them through the casing in opposite directions, so you have two loops with tails in opposite directions. This will be the drawstring for the hood. Tie the ribbon ends in knots to reduce fraying. You're ready to try it on a fox! Good job!



OWL HOOD

Hoods are used in wildlife rehab on higher stress patients during examination and treatment; they help to make animal feel more secure when being handled.

Warning: You can still be bitten through this hood. It is intended for calming and to make it harder for an owl to aim to bite you, but it does not protect your fingers. Use caution.

Notes:

- Pattern fits most large owls. Pattern can be modified to fit a smaller owl.
- "Top" refers to the top of the hood, though it may appear on the bottom in pictures

Materials:

- 24 inches of ribbon – 5/8 inch ribbed works well
- 2 pieces of colorful fabric at least 8" by 8"
 - Plain cotton or cotton/poly blend works best for this project
- 2 pieces of black fabric at least 8" by 8"
- Sewing Supplies: thread, scissors, pins, sewing machine for speed and strength

1. Cut fabric

Pin the pattern to a doubled-over piece of fabric. Cut so you have two pieces of colorful fabric, and two pieces of black fabric.



2. Sew fabric

Use the template to measure 1.5 inches up from the bottom on either side. Sew around each piece of fabric on three sides. Trim the corners and top.



3. Sew fabrics together

Turn the black fabric right side out. Put it inside the colorful fabric so the finished sides are together. Sew the colorful fabric to the black fabric with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance at the bottom of the hood.



4. Invert fabric

Through the 1.5 inch gap, turn the fabric so the unfinished sides are together.



5. Prepare ribbon casing

Measuring 1 inch from the bottom of the hood, sew around the hood to form the casing for the ribbon. You can use a Post-It to mark the distance from the sewing machine needle.



6. Prepare ear feather protectors

To form the ear feather protectors, pinch the top corner of the fabric with your fingers. Sew about $\frac{3}{4}$ in, to keep your fingers out from under the needle. Repeat on the other corner.



7. Prepare ear feather protectors

Cut two pieces of ribbon, about 12 inches. Thread them through the casing so that they form two opposite facing loops. Tie the ends together. If you have done it correctly, the hood should cinch closed when ribbon is pulled. The optional "easy off" addition is the lower ribbon tabs. Cut two 1.5" pieces of ribbon. Place them around the edges of the ribbon tie opening. Zigzag stitch across the layers for strength.



Congratulations! You made a hood!

SQUIRREL BOX

TOOLS

- 2 strap clamps miter or table saw 3" hole saw
- Dremmel with metal cutting bit jig saw

SUPPLIES

Wood

- 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 12.75" x 13" (release door)
- 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 13" x 13" each (box back)
- 2 pieces of 1/4" plywood @ 13" x 5 3/4" each (box sides) 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 10 3/4" x 3" (ramp)
- 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 5.75" x 12.5" (second floor/shelf) 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 4.5" x 4.5" (entry swing door)
- 1 piece of 1/4" plywood @ 1.5" x .5" (barrel bolt shim)
- 2 pieces of 1/2" plywood @ 12" x 5 3/4" each (box top and bottom)
- 3 pieces of 1/4" diameter dowels @ 3" each (ramp treads)

Hardware

- 1 piece of .75" webbing @ 6.5" (handle) 1—1/2" x 3/16" binding post with screw 2—1/4" x 3/16" binding posts with screws 6—3/4" washers
- 6—3/8" washers
- 1 pair of 1.5" hinges
- #8 x 1/2" flat head screws 2" barrel bolt lock set
- 1" brad nails wood glue wood putty sandpaper screw gun/drill
- 4 reusable cable ties—like- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07X388122/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_ooo_soo?ie=UTF8&psc=1 or similar



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut and sand the edges of all boards.
2. Sand beveled angles into the short ends of the ramp.



3. Glue ramp treads to the ramp and let them dry for 24 hours. When dry, sand as necessary.
4. Glue the top and sides together and clamp with strap clamps, ensuring the box frame is square. Note: the box sides overlap the sides/edges of the top and bottom pieces.



5. Add 1" brads for strength. Nail from the 1/4" plywood side into the 1/2" plywood on top and bottom.



6. Glue and nail on the back of the box (13" x 13" plywood) to the box frame. Nail from the 1/4" plywood into the 1/2" plywood on top and bottom.



7. Glue the ramp into the back of the box and with the upper portion placed 6" from the bottom of the box.



8. Make a pass-through cutout in the second floor/shelf with a jig saw, sand, glue, and clamp it into place 6" from the bottom of the box. Let the ramp and second floor/shelf dry for 24 hours.



9. Burn the edges of the webbing and mount to the top of the box using a 3/4" washer and 1/2" screw on each end.



10. Drill air holes in both sides of the box.



11. Use a 3" hole saw to make the squirrel entrance on the right side of the box (opposite the ramp) and sand to smooth edges.



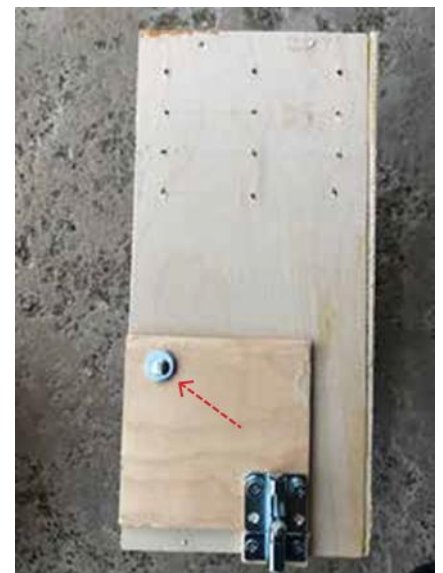
12. Mount barrel bolt to 4.5" x 4.5" swing door using three 3/8" washers and 1/2" screws. Note: The washers fill space, so the screws don't go through the other side of the plywood.



13. Place the 1.5" x .5" shim underneath receiving end of the barrel bolt and screw both into place.



14. Drill through the swing door, and the side of the box for the 1/2" binding bolt. Attach the bolt with a 3/4" washer.



15. Attach the release door with the hinges so that the door opens from the top.



16. Remove excess screw nubs protruding into the inside of the box with a Dremmel tool fitted with a metal cutting bit. Fill holes with wood putty and sand.



17. Attach two of the cable ties to the top of the box with 3/4" washers and 1/2" screws and cut the long part of the tie off.



18. Drill through the release door and attach the 1/4" binding posts. Attaching both sets of ties together will secure the release door.

19. Sand any remaining rough wood.

