



Washable Umbrella Shopping Bag

Umbrella Hacking in response to Covid 19 How to guide by Jeni Roddy



About This Hack

This hack uses an umbrella canopy to make a shopping bag you can easily decontaminate by throwing in the wash.

When my friend described to me over the phone her attempts to decontaminate her shopping bag, the thought occurred to me that a lot of reusable shopping bags are not designed for washing.

The nylon in umbrellas is the perfect fabric for a shopping bag; strong, light-weight, washable and fast-drying. Not being able to get to a fabric shop makes you resourceful. So root out that broken umbrella from the back of the cupboard and get sewing.

Use the bag, unpack your shopping, stick the bag straight in the wash for next time...no stress!

Skill level: Intermediate

Umbrella Orphanage

Umbrella Orphanage is a project by artist Jeni Roddy to rescue and transform broken umbrellas into functional artworks. It was commissioned and curated by Ríonach Ní Néill for Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann, a project for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture which aims to turn our bad weather to good use, and make Galway the place to be because it rains and blows.

These Umbrella Hacks are Jeni's response to the Covid-19 crisis, and we hope they will be of use to you.
Created at home during the lockdown.

www.hopeitrains.ie | www.jeniroddy.com

Irish & English guides available | Treoir Gaeilge & Béarla ar fáil

What you'll need for this hack



- 1 x Broken 6-Panel Umbrella
Please follow 'Broken Umbrella Deconstruction,' instructions to remove the canopy from the frame
- Thread, Matching or Contrasting
- Straight Pins (any type)
- Scissors
- Tape Measure
- Seam ripper
- Sewing Machine with straight stitch at length 2.5 or 3.
(If you don't have a sewing machine please follow the same instructions using hand-stitching)

14 Simple Steps



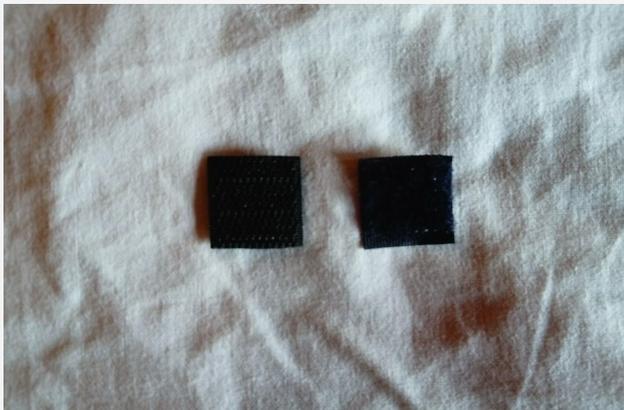
STEP 1

Remove the canopy from the frame using the stitch unpicker, try to avoid damaging the canopy when removing.



STEP 2

Remove the tab from the canopy with an unpicker.



STEP 3

Remove the hook and loop tape pieces from the tab.



STEP 4

Fold the canopy in half, with the top-side facing outwards.



STEP 5

Pin and stitch a line above the opening left by the shaft in the canopy, 1 cm above the opening and 6cm long, taking the hole as the centre point of the stitch line.



STEP 6

With the long straight side facing you, pin the canopy along the two outer side panels. Stitch a line 1cm depth all along the two outer panels to create two side seams.



STEP 7

Fold the two bottom corner points of the long straight side into the centre (e.g above the stitched-up hole). Tie them in a double knot. Make sure you leave a 3cm tail on the tied knot.



STEP 8

Fold the canopy lengthways in half to find the centre line. Measure 5cm down along the centre line and pin to mark the place.





STEP 9

Unfold the canopy.
Place a pin on the top layer to match the pinned spot on the bottom layer.
Pin the loop tape piece (from Step 3) to the inside of the top layer at the pinned spot.



STEP 10

Lift the top layer, and pin the hook tape piece (from Step 3) at the pinned spot on the inside of the bottom layer.



STEP 11

Sew the hook and loop tape pieces in place.



STEP 12

Use the umbrella tab (from Step 3) to create the bag strap.
Sew the tab to the top of the sewn side seams.





STEP 13

Place the tab on the side seam, at the very top of the seam.

Sew two lines to keep the tab in place, one 1/2cm from the top edge of the seam and one 1.5cm from the top edge.



STEP 14

Fold the tab over on itself and stitch a square with a cross through it to strengthen the strap, repeat step 12 and 13 on the other side.

Your Umbrella Shopping Bag



This bag can be washed in a machine on a mixed wash cycle and will dry quickly.
Happy and safe shopping!

Lead Image: Jeni Roddy and Conall Geoghegan.