Port Softies for Chemotherapy Patients

by Carole Carter From My Carolina Home

a blog about quilting, cooking, reading books, gardening, crafting, sewing, photography and more



These go together in a flash, and they are a wonderful way to use up scraps of fabric and batting. Any hospital or chemotherapy center would love to have them. This pdf is provided free so your local group can make some for your local chemo center.

Cut Fabric Pieces -

- 2 pieces of fabric 5 x 7 inches for the base
- 2 pieces of fabric $3-1/2 \times 4-3/4$ for tabs
- 2 one-inch squares of velcro hooks and loops
- 2-4 pieces of batting 4-1/2 x 6-1/2 inches, depending on thickness small amount of fiberfill for extra softness



Sew Tabs

Fold the tab in half longwise, and sew across the short side on one end, pivot and sew down the long side. Leave the other short end open for turning. Turn and press the tabs, then sew the hook side of the velcro to the end of the tab.

Assemble Softie

Place the tabs on the top of one of the pieces of 5x7 fabric about 1 to 1-1/2 inches in from each end velcro side down. Where exactly doesn't really matter, just place them with some space at the ends and between the two tabs. Pin.



Now, turn up the end with the velcro, and mark an 'X' on the base to show where the loop side of the velcro should be sewn. Place the loop side of the velcro over the mark, and sew in place.

Press the tab velcro onto the base velcro. Place the backing 5x7 piece of fabric right sides together with the

front unit. Pin through the tabs in line with the edge so they don't shift inside while sewing. Sew around the softie, pivoting at the corners, and leaving an opening on one short side for turning.

Stuff with at least 2-4 layers of batting, and add bit more of fiberfill or extra batting as stuffing just in the middle. It seems to be more comfortable for the patients if it is softly stuffed, not firm. Topstitch the opening closed.

Continue topstitching around the edge to hold the batting in place.



Remember that men need these too. So, for every floral one I make, I make another one in a more masculine fabric like a plaid. To use, simply un-hook the velcro and wrap the tabs over the seat belt, press the velcro tabs onto the base and adjust the pad to sit where needed. It can stay on the seat belt until no longer needed. Easy, fast, and everyone that receives one will be grateful for the cushion in the car from those seat belts. The need is ongoing. Thank you for helping with this project in your community.