

Acts of Sewing Kindness

2022 National Community Service Initiative

New Baby Kits

- Instructions and patterns provided
- Distribute to *local* midwifery centers, hospitals, day care centers, crisis nurseries, etc.
- Chapters encouraged to host Community Sew-In Events in April and September



National Community Service Initiative



Community service is the one of the pillars of the American Sewing Guild. The 2022 national initiative will focus on needs associated with babies. Members are asked to make any of the five items below. Once completed, chapters are encouraged to distribute the completed items with midwifery centers. As an alternative, the items can be distributed to maternity wards in hospitals and pediatrician offices as well.

NOTES:

- ★ All of these items can be sewn or serged
- ★ Chosen fabric should be soft
- ★ You are encouraged to make and include an American Sewing Guild label with your chapter name, but be sure that the label is soft as well
- ★ If including a ASG label:
 - *Insert it in the opening prior to sewing the opening close
 - *****Or sew it on the item before finishing off
 - *The goal is apply the label in such a way that the bobbin stitches will be to the inside and not visible in the finished product

Baby Hat

- 1. Cut out two of the pattern out of soft knit fabric
- 2. With right sides together, sew two pieces together with a 1/4" seam allowance using a straight or loose zigzag stitch around the curved sides. Do not sew the straight edge together
- 3. Along the unsewn edge, fold up edge 2" to the inside of the hat or the wrong side
- 4. Sew around the circumference 1/2" to 3/4" above the fold
- 5. Turn the folded edge up 1" to the right side to create the hat band
- 6. On each side seam, stitch in the ditch over the band to hold it in place

Baby No Scratch Mittens

- 1. Make the mittens out of flannel or cotton depending on the season
- 2. The small will fit newborns where the large will fit up to 7 months old
- 3. Cut 4 pieces of the mitten pattern out of the outer fabric and the lining
- 4. With two of the outer fabric pieces with right side together, sew a 1/4" seam around the curved edge. Repeat for other outer fabric pieces
- 5. Clip the curve and turn right side out
- 6. With two of the lining fabric pieces with right side together, sew a 1/4" seam around the curved edge leaving at least 1/2" opening around one of the sides to turn later. Clip around the curve. Repeat for other lining fabric pieces
- 7. Insert lining into main fabric sewn pieces so that right sides to facing one another aligning the straight edge
- 8. Sew around the straight edge
- 9. Turn right side by pulling the outer fabric through the opening in the lining
- 10. Push lining into the outer fabric. Make sure fold is on the sewn seam
- 11. Topstitch around the bottom edge with a 3/8" seam. Leave an opening near the opening that was left on the side of the lining to form the casing
- 12. Cut 1/4" elastic 3" long for the small or 4" long for the large
- 13. Thread the elastic through the side opening into the casing using a bodkin or safety pin
- 14. Sew the ends of the elastic together
- 15. Pull the lining out a bit to sew the side opening closed
- 16. Sew around the opening to complete the casing

Pee-Pee Spray Teepee

Baby boys have a tendency to involuntarily spray pee-pee when their penises are exposed to cool air. Because their diapers are changed while they are laying on their backs, the aim of the pee-pee is directed for whoever is lucky enough to be changing the bundle of the joy. The Pee-Pee Spray Teepee will prevent the unexpected shower by placing it on top of the penis as soon as the diaper is pulled back. Reusable and washable.

- 1. With right sides facing, sew the outer fabric and lining together around the curved edge with 1/4" seam allowance
- 2. Turn right side out and press or pin sewn seam flat
- 3. Edge stitch the curved edge
- 4. Fold the piece with right sides of outer fabric facing one another and sew along raw edges with a 1/4" seam allowance. Use a zigzag stitch or serge the edges
- 5. Turn right side out and push out tip

Baby Bib

- Cut out one outer fabric and one inner fabric (preferably terrycloth)
- 2. With right facing, sew around the edge leaving a 1 1/2" opening for turning with a 1/4" seam allowance
- 3. Clip the curves if necessary
- 4. Turn the bib right side out through the opening
- 5. Press the bib flat
- 6. Edgestitch around the edge with a 1/4" seam allowance. This will enclose the opening that was left for turning
- 7. Closure three options:
 - a. Attach 3/4" square hook and loop tape to side of the strap
 - b. Attach snaps
 - c. Sew a buttonhole on one strap and button on the other

Burp Cloth

- 1. Match the marks on the two pattern pieces. As an option the pattern can be printed twice and joined together
- 2. Cut out one of outer fabric and one of inner fabric on the fold.

 Outer fabric can be a soft cotton. Inner fabric can be terrycloth or flannel
- 3. With right sides facing, sew the outer and inner fabrics together using a 3/8" seam allowance leaving a 1 1/2" to 2" opening for turning on the straighter side
- 4. Clip curves and corners as necessary
- 5. Turn the bib to right side out and press
- 6. Edgestitch the pressed bib

Baby Blanket

Fabric: Soft nursery flannel is a great choice

* For a warmer blanket, will need cotton batting

Size: Large: 30" x 40" Small: 28" x 35"

- 1. Cut your showcase fabric, backing fabric and batting to size
- 2. Stack showcase fabric and backing fabric with right sides together
- 3. Then place the batting on top of the wrong side of the showcase fabric
- 4. Sew around the four sides with a 1/2" seam allowance leaving a 5-6 inch opening for turning
- 5. Trim any fabric that expanded while sewing and clip corners if you would like
- 6. Turn right side out making sure corners are pushed out
- 7. Pin the opening shut making sure all raw edges are pushed to the inside
- 8. If including a ASG label, insert it in the opening prior to the next step
- 9. Topstitch the entire blanket with a generous 1/4" seam allowance