

"DIY Trade Show Handcraft Display"

(Uses Wire Hangers and Wine Bottles)

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Description: This pattern was designed for a simple display that can be made with items you may have on hand. The display can be used for many handcrafts such as knitted and sewn items. It would also be useful for jewelry. Full color pictures and instructions are included



Finished displays with merchandise

Quantities listed will make two displays.

Materials needed:

2 1/2 yards (45 inch)Material— The fabric used in the example is a polyester knit on the exterior. A flannel was used for the lining. If you only have one type of material it can be used for the outside and the lining.

Matching Thread

2 wire hangers

2 wine bottles

Pins, scissors, printed pattern







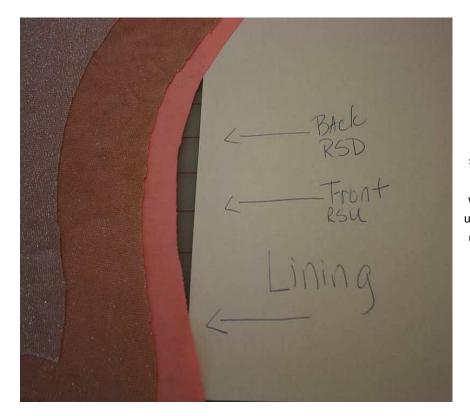
Wash and dry your fabric per the recommended material settings. Iron it on low. Print off the pattern and cut it out. There will be four pieces for the actual cloth display. Look for the stars on the four corners. These will help you line up the pieces. There are also arrows to assist. You can tape them together to make it easier to pin to the material.

The material used in the example is a polyester knit. It drapes beautifully but is very thin. We used a flannel to give it some stability in the way of a lining. If you use a thin material you may need to line it as well. We were able to do that on one side which became the front. This made for a smoother shape. Therefore you will cut a front, a back and one lining. If you use a heavier fabric like canvas or even burlap, you may decide it is thick enough without a lining. In that case cut 2 pieces for a front and a back. The quantities listed for the materials will actually be enough to make two complete displays so once you decide on your material, cut the number of pieces accordingly.



Our Lining, Front and Back are cut and ready to sew





If using thin outer material, lay your lining down first, place the front right side up and then place the back right side down. Since we used a flannel for the lining it did not matter which side was up. It will not be seen and is being used for structure and shape. If you are using two pieces only for a front and a back, place them right sides together.

Pin the pieces together carefully. Leave a section open at the bottom for turning later





See the open area at the bottom. Make sure to compare it to the bottom of your wine bottle. It will need to slip over the largest part later. Marking the area with two pins will remind you where to stop sewing.



You are ready to begin sewing. We used a stretch stitch (ZigZag) due to our knit material.

Carefully sew around the perimeter of the fabric

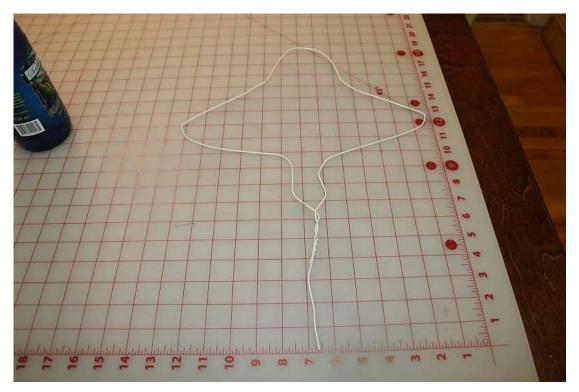






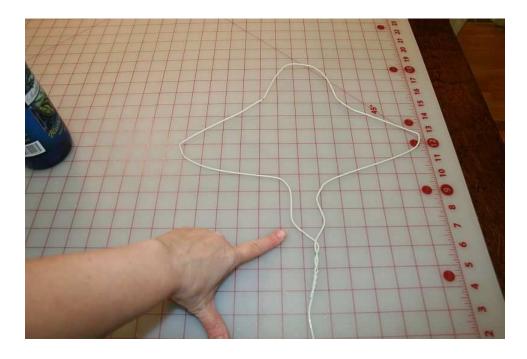
Turn your fabric right side out. Since we used a knit, hemming the edges is not really necessary as it will not fray. If you have used another type of fabric, you can either hem the open ends at this time or you can use pinking shears to keep the fraying to a minimum.





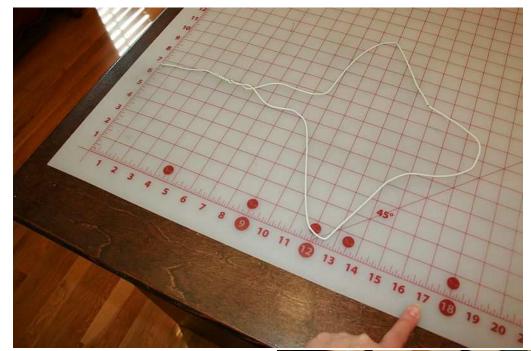
Now it's time to get your hanger ready. Using the last two pieces of the pattern will help you with the bends you will need to create. If you look at the picture you will see that the finished hanger should be about 17–18 inches tall and 13 inches wide. This may vary depending on the type of wire hanger you have.

Your hanger will be turned upside down and you will straighten the hook first. Then bend the top into a small hump. This will be the neck of the display. Finally you will create the bottom "latch" that will secure the hanger in the bottle.



This is the "latch". When it is pushed down into the neck of the wine bottle, it will expand and lock the hanger into place





Another view just to show the general shape you want to achieve. It will look like a stingray.

Ready to place the hanger in the bottle to make sure of a good fit. This is what it will look like before it is fully inserted.





The entire base is in the bottle now and will hold the fabric in place. If you need to adjust the wire now is the time. Once the fit is good, remove the hanger so you can install it in the cover.





Carefully work the hanger into the opening at the base of the fabric. You may need to slightly bend it to get it inside but you can always straighten it back out.

Once inside, move the hanger to the top so the hump is in the neck and the two sides fill out the shoulder areas.







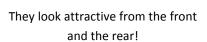
Now you are ready to put the hanger back into the bottle and slide the fabric all the way down. If you want to make it more secure you can fill the bottle up with small glass beads or pebbles. This will help stabilize it to stay upright if customers remove items.





Your display is ready for you to merchandise!









ENJOY!

