

Barbecue Apron

For the Sunday chef or the everyday cook, this barbecue apron is both fun and practical. Here's something that boys who are learning to be tailors can enjoy making.

What You Need

1 and $\frac{1}{8}$ yard of 36-inch to 45-inch fabric matching thread

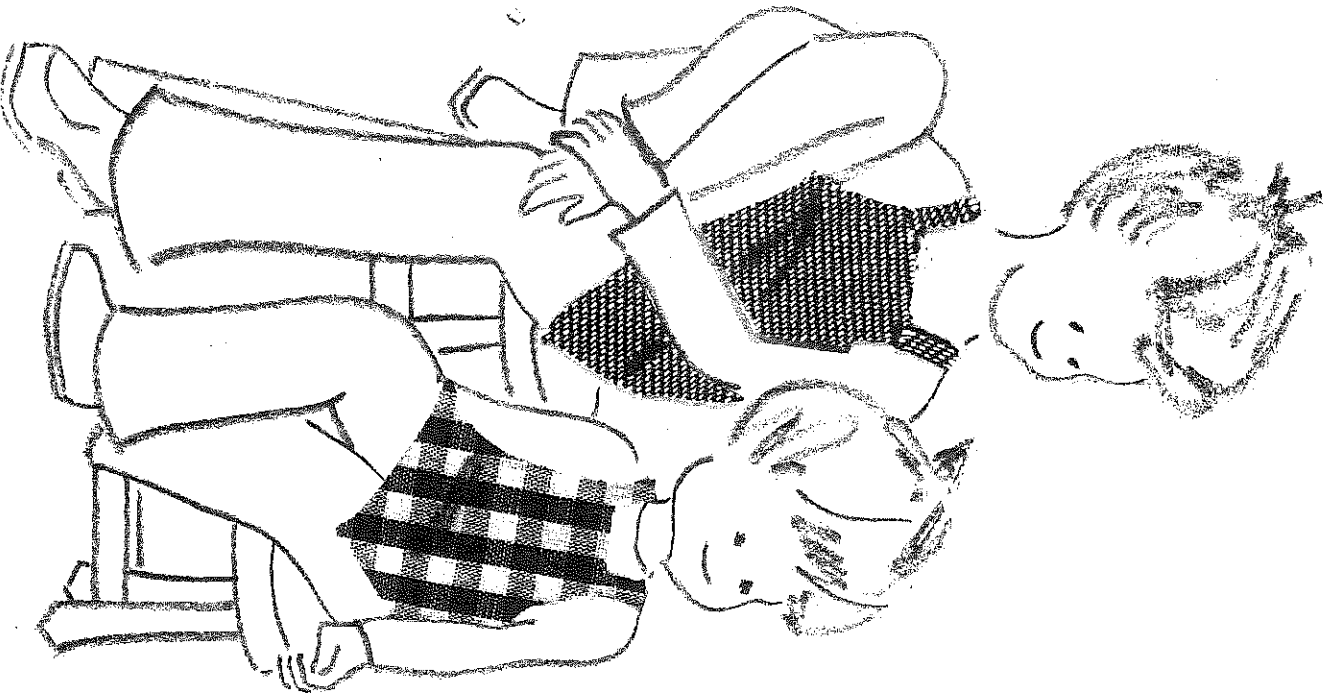
Note: This is an approximate measurement that allows for straightening and pre-shrinking. This amount of fabric makes an apron about 22 inches long. This is long enough for the average size 10 or 11-year-old. You may need to lengthen or shorten your apron if you are very tall or very short.

Fabric Suggestions

Use medium to heavyweight cotton or cotton-blend fabric for your apron. Select a washable fabric. Good choices are denim, sailcloth or kettle cloth. Avoid drill, duck, corduroy, vinyl, terry cloth and knit fabrics.

How to Make a Barbecue Apron

- Check the fabric to see if it is thread straight. If it is not, you need to straighten it before you begin. Follow the instructions given earlier in this manual.
- Pre-shrinking is an important step in fabric preparation. You will probably machine wash and dry your apron. Do this to your fabric before you begin cutting and sewing.



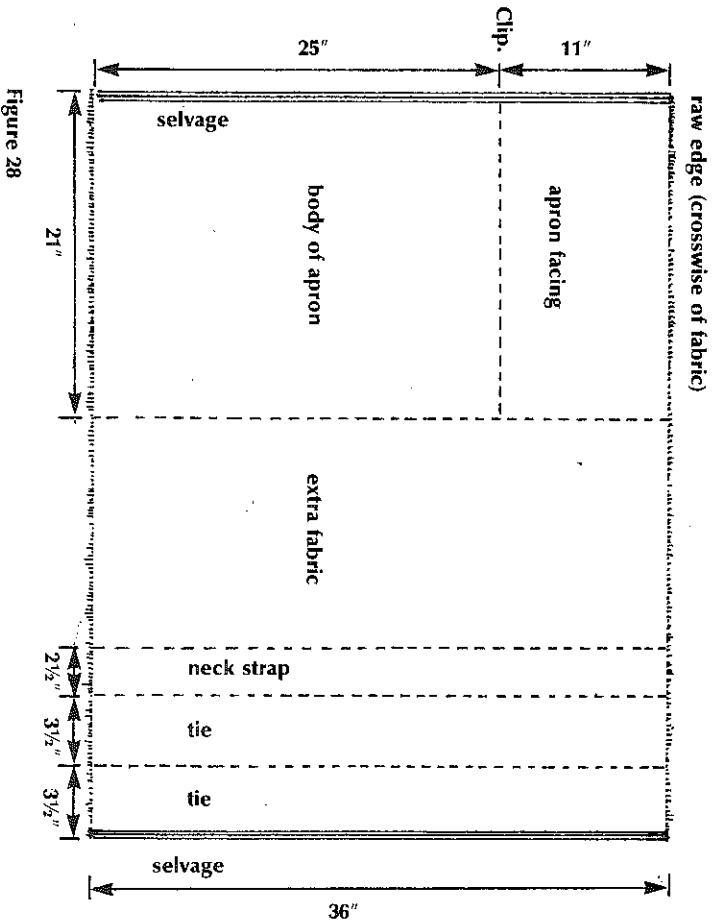


Figure 28

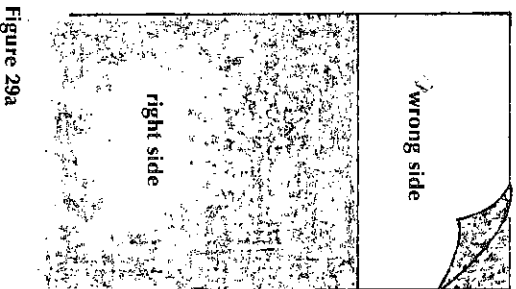
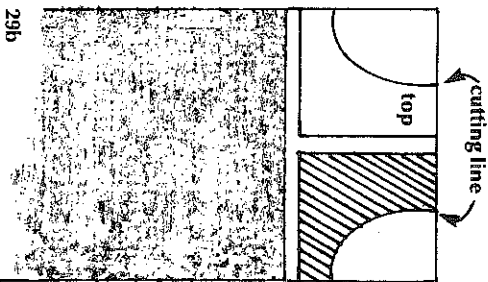


Figure 29a



29b

Note: When you turn over the pattern piece, place pattern side along right edge of the fabric. Pattern pieces do not meet in the center.

- When you are sure one end of your fabric is thread straight, measure 36 inches, clip the selvage edge, pull a thread and cut on this line. See Figure 28.
- Measure from one selvage edge along the "raw" edge 21 inches. Mark this point with a pin, chalk or pencil mark. Measure and mark a line 21 inches from the selvage edge the full length of the fabric. Make a mark every 4 or 5 inches. Cut along the marked line. This makes the apron body and apron facing. See Figure 28.
- Measuring from the remaining selvage edge, mark a line the length of the fabric 3 and 1/2 inches from the fabric edge; cut along the marked line. This is one tie. Measure and mark again 3 and 1/2 inches from the fabric edge. Cut. This is the second tie. Repeat again for the neckband, this time measuring 2 and 1/2 inches. See Figure 28.
- Take the first large piece that you measured and cut. It should be 21 inches wide and 36 inches long. Measure from one end along the selvage edge of this piece for 11 inches. Clip the selvage, pull a thread and cut across the fabric. The smaller piece is the apron facing and the larger piece is the apron body.
- Lay the large apron piece right side up on a flat surface. Lay the apron facing piece right side down over the first piece. Match top and side edges. See Figure 29a.
- Cut out the pattern in this manual. See Figure 30. Put the upper left hand corner of the pattern in the upper left hand corner of the apron fabric. See Figure 29b. Pin in place. Cut through both layers of the fabric along the cutting line. Reverse the pattern and cut the right side of the apron in the same way you did the left side. This forms the curve for the arm.

Pattern edge not center front. See page 24.

top

5/8" seam

Apron and apron facing pattern

26

cutting line

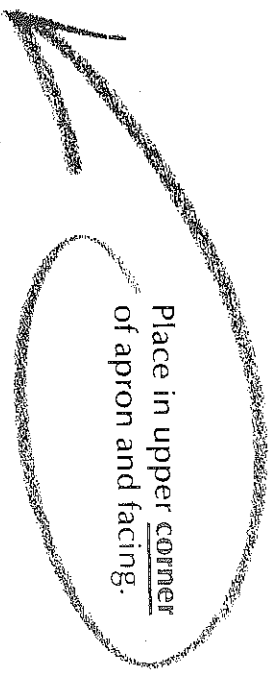
stitching line

side

5/8" seam

Place in upper corner of apron and facing.

Figure 30

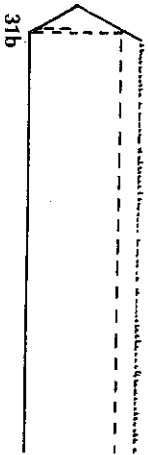
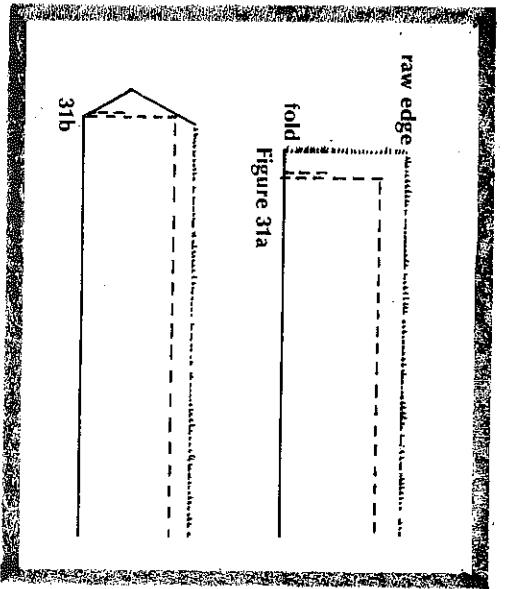


The Apron Ties

- Take the two pieces of fabric you cut for the ties (3 and 1/2 inches by 36 inches). Measure 30 inches along length of each one. Cut.
- Fold one tie piece in half the long direction, right sides together. Pin the edges together. Begin stitching at one end. Stitch a seam 3/8 inch wide along one end and the long side. Leave the other end open. Backstitch at beginning and end of seam. See Figure 31a.
- Clip off the corners on the closed end so the tie will not be so thick when you turn it to the right side. See Figure 31b.
- Use the eraser end of a pencil to turn the tie right side out. Use a large pin to pull out the corners. See Figure 31c.
- With your fingers, fold seam so it lies along one edge of the tie. Press. See Figure 31d.

The Neckband

- Take the piece of fabric that is 2 and 1/2 inches by 36 inches. Measure 19 inches along the length and cut. Fold it in half in the long direction with the right sides together. Pin.
- Stitch 3/8 inch from the raw edge for the length of the neckband. Leave both ends open. Next, backstitch at each end of the neckband.
- Turn. Use a safety pin to turn the neckband right side out. Again, using your fingers, fold the seam so that it lies along one edge of the neckband. Press.

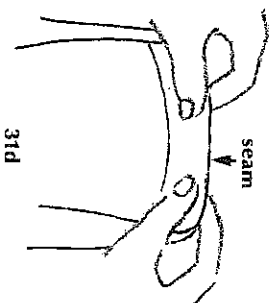
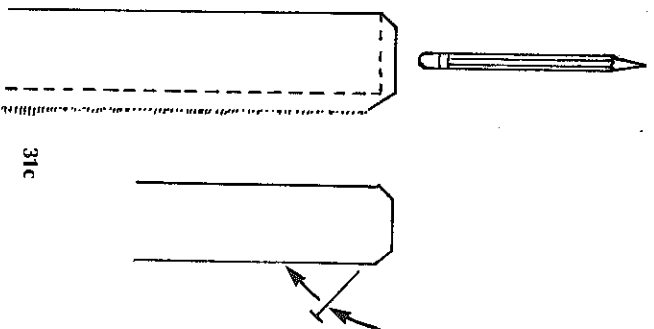


The Apron Facing

- This is the piece of fabric you cut to 11 inches by 21 inches. It now has the curved shapes cut into it.
- Stay-stitch 1/4 inch from the edge along the long straight edge.
- Turn under to the wrong side along stay-stitching line and press. Stitch along fold.

Putting the Apron Together

- Lay the main apron piece right side up on a flat surface. Lay the ties and neckband in place. Place the open ends to the raw edges of the apron. Place each tie and neckband 5/8 inch from the curved edge to allow for seam allowance. Pin the ties and neckband in place. Machine baste 1/2 inch from the edge over each end. See Figure 32a.
- Try on and adjust length of neckband.
- Lay the apron facing over the apron and ties, with the right sides together. Match the top



edges and the curved edges. Pin in place. See Figure 32b. Stitch.

- Clip the curved edge in two or three places. To do this, snip with the point of your scissors from the raw edge into the seam allowance close to the stitching. **Do not clip through the stitching.** Also, clip the corners to reduce bulk. Again, **do not** clip through the stitching. See Figure 32c.

- Turn the apron right side out. Press, pulling the seam out to the edges so that it lies along the edge.

Finishing the Side Hem

- Stay-stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the raw edge of the apron sides, using regular stitch length. Turn the edge to the wrong side, creasing on the stitching line. Press. Turn the fold over $\frac{3}{8}$ inch and press again.

- Put in pins to hold hem in place. Stitch close to the first fold edge; backstitch at both ends. Do this on both sides of apron, stitching from hem to arm curve. See Figure 33.

Finishing the Bottom Hem

- Stay-stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the raw edge of your apron. Turn the edge to the wrong side, creasing on the stitching line. Press.
- Set your seam gauge for 1 inch. Turn the hem up, measuring a 1-inch hem. Press, using steam if necessary. Pin the hem in place. See Figure 34.

- Stitch the hem in place. Stitch close to the edge of the first fold. Use regular stitch length (10 to 12 stitches per inch). Backstitch at the beginning and end of the hem. Pull thread ends to wrong side and tie.

