

Neck Coolers

needed for 8 coolers:

- ★ 1 yd 100% cotton fabric (at LEAST 42" wide)
prewash the fabric to remove any sizing
- ★ 1/2 - 1 tsp polymer granules per cooler
(see resource at end)
- ★ sewing machine or serger

helpful:

- ★ rotary cutter and mat (makes for quick cutting)



two-pocket style with seam in the back

instructions:

1. Cut or tear strips 4 1/2" wide by the fabric width (selvedge to selvedge). I usually use 45" wide fab, so I just cut them the width of the fabric -- 45" should be the max

NOTE: If your fabric is too wide (or not wide enough), purchase 1 1/4 yards and cut in the direction of the selvedge (from top to bottom) instead.
2. Fold in half, right sides together, on the long edge
3. Sew/serge the long seam and turn. Iron. As shown above, the seam has been placed in the center back, rather than at the edge. Now you have a tube about 2" wide and 40 - 45" long
4. Mark the center of the long edge and stitch across it.
5. Drop in a scant 1/8 tsp of crystals on each side of the seam

NOTE: This pattern tested with Watersorb® crystals. Make a test tie with the brand you're using to be sure this isn't too much/too little after it's soaked.
6. Mark 4 1/2" from the center seam and seam again.

Now there are 2 pockets with crystals.
7. Drop in another scant 1/8 tsp of in both sides and seam like before (4 1/2 inches from the first set of seams). You should have a total of 4 pockets.

NOTE: Some people make 2 pockets that are 9"/10" each, and some make just one 18" pocket. For longer pockets, adjust the quantity of granules accordingly.
8. Serge ends (or fold in raw edges and sew across) to finish. Diagonal ends, as in the photo, look nice.

NEW USE: The Ships Project has received word directly from a contact at Watersorb® that cool ties made with Watersorb® brand crystals can also be heated in a microwave (once they have been soaked, of course).

They will purportedly retain heat about 3x times longer than they will retain cold.

Please attach a care label when donating!

Bulk Crystals from Watersorb

I like this brand the best. In my experience, it requires some 50% less than those I bought in the garden department.

<http://www.watersorb.com/buycooltie1.htm>

For THE SHIPS PROJECT please tuck in and sew, do not just serge to finish ends.

<http://www.theshipsproject.com/>

care label

- ★ immerse in cold water approx 60 min, until crystals become gel
- ★ tie around head or neck
- ★ regenerate by soaking 1-3 minutes
- ★ do not freeze
- ★ dehydrate to store
- ★ hand wash only, mild soap
- ★ ties can be heated (briefly) in a microwave. take care when removing as they will be extremely hot!

TERMS OF USE ... This is a pattern for charity or personal use only - neither it, nor items made from it, are to be sold!

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