Make a Washable Fabric Bread-Basket Liner

A removable four-sided liner pattern for a small rectangular basket

Why a removable basket liner

A loose textile insert can give a small rectangular bread basket a tidy appearance and be taken out for cleaning. This teaching pattern has one rectangular base and four separate side panels sewn into a low ring. The illustrated example is for a basket with approximately 140 x 100 mm usable inside base and about 60 mm side rise. It is not intended for every basket shape.

The original five-piece design

Cut one base rectangle 160 x 120 mm, two long side rectangles 160 x 90 mm and two short side rectangles 120 x 90 mm. With consistent 10 mm seams at panel sides and base, and a top double-turn hem of 10 + 10 mm, the nominal inside bottom measures 140 x 100 mm and the nominal wall height is 60 mm. All are calculated dimensions, not results from a sewn sample.

Materials and cleanliness

Use new or demonstrably clean, washable, colourfast woven cotton suitable for the intended household setting. Avoid loosely shedding fibres, glitter, heavy dye transfer, unknown coatings and decorative beads. The example uses thread, a ruler, washable fabric marker, clips, scissors, a needle or sewing machine and an iron adjusted for your cloth. Fabric labels determine washing and drying temperatures.

Food-contact boundary

No food-contact compliance, dye migration, absorbency, heat resistance, hygiene, laundering or microbial testing has been performed. For this untested educational pattern, use a separate verified food-safe bread wrapper or sheet between food and liner. Let bread cool before placing it in a basket. Do not use for hot trays, oven surfaces or wet dough; never claim this lining is certified for direct food contact.

Correcting dimensional problems

A base that gathers under the walls often indicates uneven seam allowance, wrong wall order or a basket shape that differs from the simple rectangle. Check seam-to-seam wall lengths before trimming any corners. A liner taller than the rim can topple; use a lower R or a different basket.

Cleaning routine

Shake out crumbs away from food, wash separately as your cloth care label allows and dry completely before returning it to a basket. If stains, persistent odours, mould, loose fibres or degraded stitching remain after appropriate cleaning, discontinue use. This is cleaning advice, not proof of hygiene or food-contact safety.

Originality and untested limitations

All five rectangular diagrams and instructions are original to Steadleaf Press. No third-party sewing pattern is reproduced. No prototype was constructed; the washable label describes a removable design, not a verified cleaning outcome. No thermal, microbial, food-contact, durability or laundering trial was performed.

Measure and plan

Measure the actual basket

Empty and clean the basket first. Measure its flat inside bottom width X and depth Y, the usable side wall height R, the inside upper opening, and whether the basket flares dramatically. A steeply tapered or rounded basket may not work with a simple four-sided rectangular liner. A moderate overlap over the rim is not supplied in this pattern; it rests inside.

Develop the five paper parts

For a square-corner basket, cut base width X + 20 mm and base depth Y + 20 mm, each including 10 mm seam allowances on opposite sides. Cut two long walls of width X + 20 mm; two short walls of width Y + 20 mm. Wall cut height is R + 10 mm bottom seam + 20 mm double-turn top hem. In the worked example X=140, Y=100 and R=60 mm, giving base 160 x 120, long walls 160 x 90, short walls 120 x 90.

Check your paper pattern

PATTERN 1 displays the full-size base and a long side; PATTERN 2 displays a short side and a repeatable 50 mm ruler. Print at Actual Size, not Fit. Each long side is cut twice and each short side is cut twice; the base is cut once. Because the templates are simple rectangles, using a measured ruler is a sound alternative whenever your basket differs from the example.

Think through corners and order

The four wall pieces form a ring by joining short raw vertical edges in the sequence long-short-long-short with 10 mm seams. Their finished widths total 2 x 140 + 2 x 100 = 480 mm, which equals the perimeter of the finished 140 x 100 mm base. Attach the wall ring to the base using a 10 mm seam. Sew the top double-turn hem before constructing the ring if you prefer handling smaller flat pieces; keep all four top hems equal.

Why fabrics may change after washing

Some cotton shrinks or distorts and some dyes bleed. Read the care label and, if appropriate, prewash and fully dry before cutting. Do not mix materials that require incompatible cleaning methods. The publisher has not tested any fabric for washing durability or food use.

Keep limits explicit

This is a removable textile accessory, not a structural reinforcement, watertight layer, heat shield or sanitary barrier. It must stay away from flame, hot cookware, food preparation machinery, unsupervised small children and pets. Loose fibres and strings must be controlled.

Step-by-step / first half

1. Set up and make a sizing record

Clean and empty the basket, then record interior base width X, depth Y and planned rise R. The example basket accepts 140 x 100 mm floor and 60 mm side rise; if yours differs, recalculate every rectangle and redraw patterns rather than scaling the file.

2. Prepare safe fabric

Select a stable, smooth woven fabric. Follow the textile care label if prewashing, dry completely, then press. Check it for loose fibres, irregular stains and visible dye bleeding. Do not use unknown treated fabric for an item stored near bread.

3. Verify template scale

Print PATTERN 1 and PATTERN 2 on US Letter or A4 at 100%. Measure each 50 mm reference mark with a real ruler. All outlines represent fabric cut lines and their labeled dimensions in millimetres. Correct printer settings before cutting.

4. Cut the base rectangle

Cut one 160 x 120 mm base from the example pattern. Mark a line 10 mm inward on all four sides for guidance. If your calculated base is a different size, draw that rectangle carefully in millimetres and cut only the resized version.

5. Cut two long side rectangles

Use the same long-side pattern twice to cut two pieces, each 160 x 90 mm for the example. Keep the fabric grain consistent with the base and with the opposite long wall so they behave similarly when washed.

6. Cut two short side rectangles

Use the short-side pattern twice to cut two pieces, each 120 x 90 mm for the example. Double-check that you now have exactly five cloth parts: one base, two long walls, two short walls.

7. Fold and finish the upper rims

On the top edge of each wall piece, press 10 mm to the wrong side and then another 10 mm. Sew close to the inner folded edge. This encloses the raw fabric. The calculated finished rise is 90 mm cut height - 20 mm top hem - 10 mm base seam = 60 mm.

Step-by-step / finish

8. Arrange the four side pieces

Place the side panels around the base in long-short-long-short order. With right sides together, join each adjacent short vertical raw edge at 10 mm allowance. Match finished top edges. Close the final seam to make one four-sided ring. Press the four vertical seam allowances open or consistently to one side, allowing the corners to lie flat before sewing the base.

9. Check the ring perimeter

Check that the sewn ring has two long sections of about 140 mm and two short sections of about 100 mm between vertical seams. Any large difference means seam allowances or cutting dimensions need correction before attachment.

10. Align the ring and base

Turn the ring and flat base with right sides facing each other. Clip the bottom edge of each wall section to its matching base edge, aligning the four vertical wall seams with the base corners. Avoid pulling edges into place.

11. Stitch the four base seams

Sew 10 mm from the base raw edge around all four sides, pivoting at the corners. Keep the seam allowance consistent. At tight corners, stop and adjust the cloth gently without cutting into the fabric or stitching.

12. Finish and flatten seam allowances

Zigzag or blanket-stitch raw seam allowances where appropriate for the chosen fabric. Avoid unnecessary bulky overlaps, and trim only loose thread tails. Press the seams according to the fabric care label.

13. Turn the liner and inspect

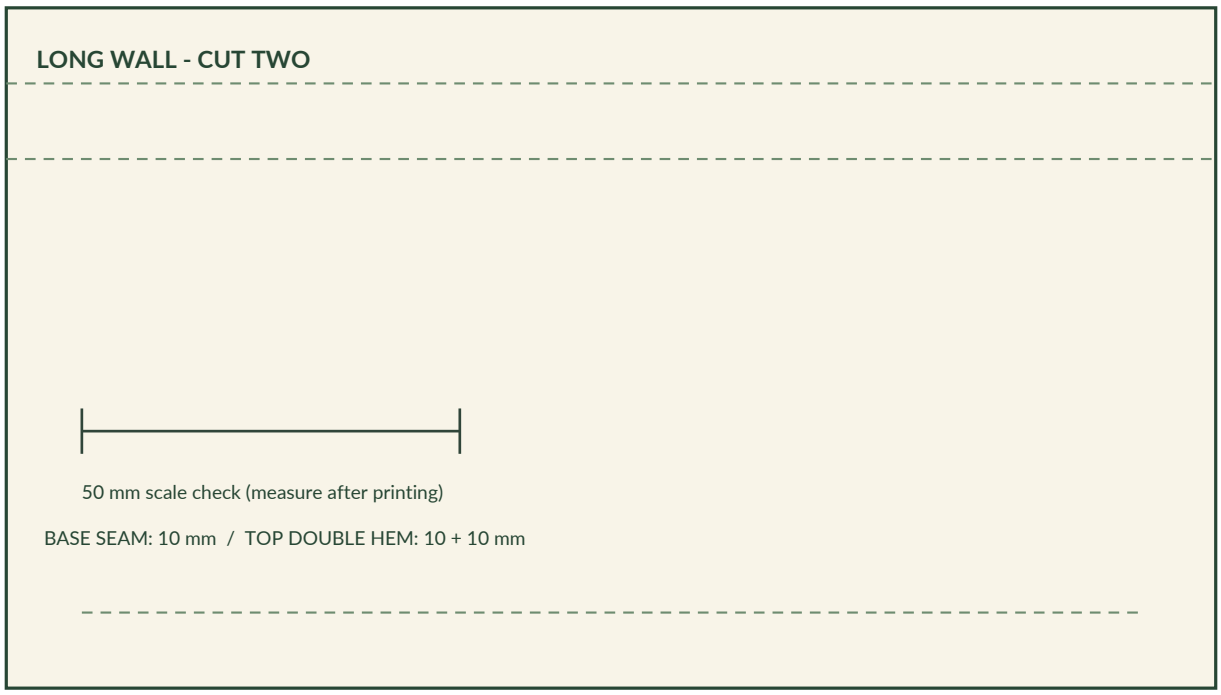
Turn right side out. The fabric ring should sit upright around the base without holes, sharp decorations or hanging loose thread. If corners pull significantly, check each seam length instead of stretching the textile.

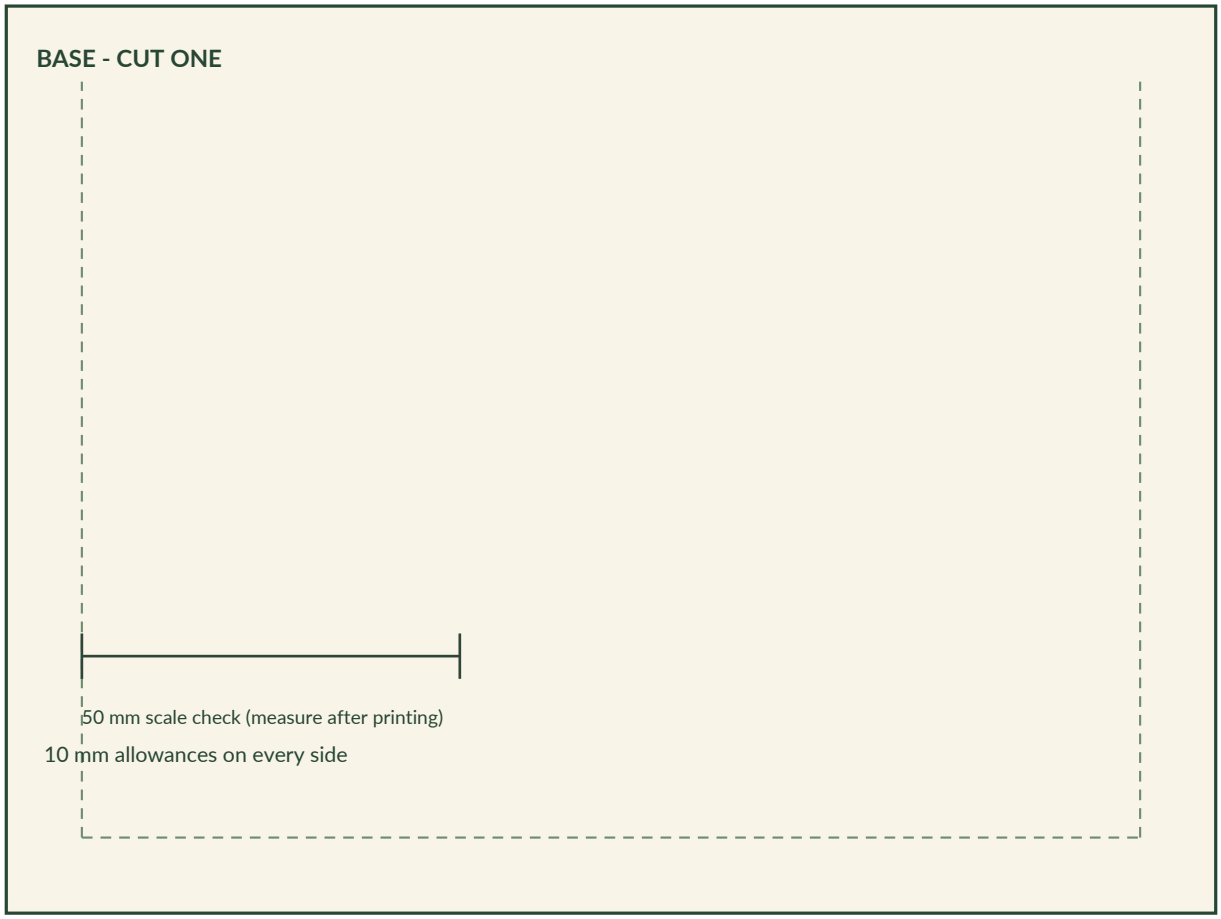
14. Remove for cleaning and safe use

Set the dry liner loosely in the clean basket. Use a separate verified food-safe wrapper or sheet for bread, especially where direct textile-food contact would otherwise occur. Remove and wash the liner as its label permits, dry fully, then replace. Do not use if it retains moisture, mould odour or loose fibres.

STP-MAKE-F056 PATTERN 1 OF 2

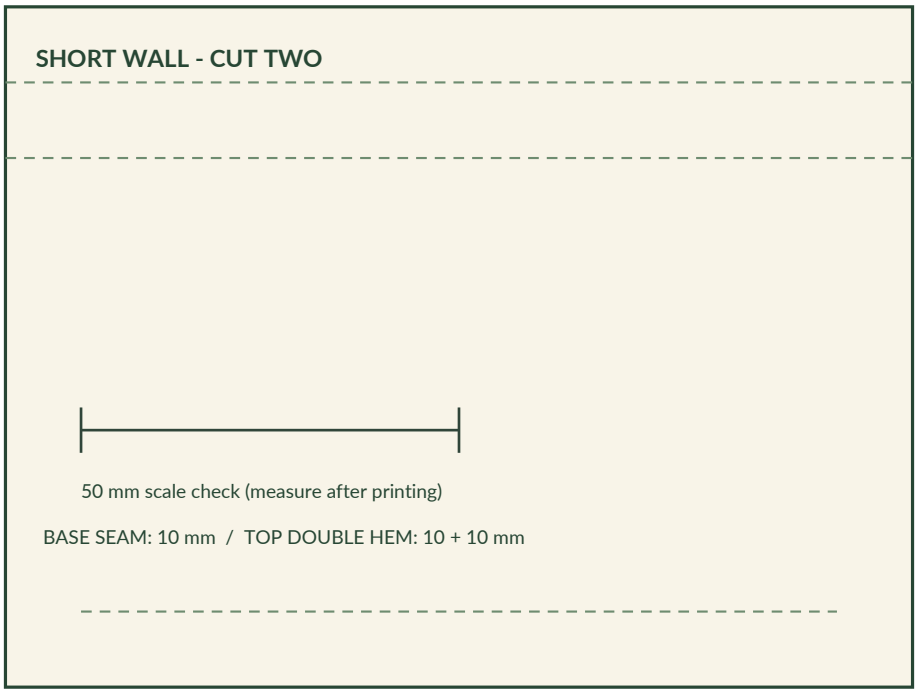
Example straight-sided basket: 140 x 100 mm base, 60 mm rise.





STP-MAKE-F056 PATTERN 2 OF 2

Example straight-sided basket: 140 x 100 mm base, 60 mm rise.



MAKE / MEASURE / ADJUST

Basket measurements

Inside base X = _____ mm; inside depth Y = _____ mm; required rise R = _____ mm.

Five-part cut math

BASE X+20 by Y+20. TWO long walls X+20 by R+30. TWO short walls Y+20 by R+30.

Example pieces

Base 160x120 (one); long side 160x90 (two); short side 120x90 (two). Both wall top edges double-turned 10+10 mm.

Dry geometry / print scale

All 50 mm bars measured? Sheet1: ____ / ____ mm; Sheet2: ____ / ____ mm.

Food-contact separation

Use separate verified food-safe wrapper or sheet; publisher has not tested food-contact suitability or hygiene.

MAKE / MEASURE / ADJUST

Remove and clean

Remove liner from basket; shake loose crumbs and wash as textile instructions allow.

Keep food separate

Place bread in its own verified food-safe paper or wrap. Avoid hot, damp food against an untested liner.

Dry and inspect

Do not store a damp, mouldy or shedding liner in contact with the basket.

After-use notes

Laundry settings, stains, seam repairs, later redesign: _____