

Recycled denim pouch bag



Have you ever ask yourself what to do with the remains of those denim jeans you cut to make a pair of shorts?

Well, don't throw them away, you can make a cute little pouch/clutch to hold your cards, pens, makeup or keys. This is a very simple DIY project but you will still need to have some *basic sewing skills*, if you don't have a sewing machine

you can do it by hand, or even use fabric glue. Let's get started!

Materials:

- * Recycled denim fabric (from the jeans legs)
- * White fabric paint
- * Big black button
- * Small elastic hair band
- * Pins, needle and thread
- * Scissors
- * Brushes
- * Sewing machine (optional)



Step by step:

- 1) Cut the denim leg around 25 cm long. I forgot to take a pic of this step, Oops.
- 2) Turn it inside out and sew across the denim leg opening (the side you just cut) using a sewing machine (or by hand) until closes. Turn it right side in again.
- 3) Fold the open end over to create an envelope effect





- 4) Mark the middle of the opening with a pen/pencil (where the elastic will be stitched)
- 5) Pin the elastic halfway in the first layer of the opening side.
- 6) Using a needle and matching color thread (for your fabric) secure the elastic in the inside of the fabric.
- 7) Fold the pouch and use the elastic as a reference to mark (with a pen/pencil) where the button will be stitched.
- 8) Sew your button in place.

6



7



8



9) You'll end with something like this. Now it's time to paint and add your special touch.

I even painted the button at the end! Depending on what kind of fabric paint you use, you might want to iron this once the paint is completely dry (being careful with the plastic button) using a soft cloth at the top to make sure the paint stays.



Tomato Plants from ripe tomatoes



Growing tomatoes can be easy with this method.

Put regular potting soil in a pot. Take one over ripe tomato and cut into $\frac{1}{4}$ inch slices and place on the soil.

Cover the tomato slices with a thin layer of soil. Water to keep the soil moist, but not wet. In about 2 weeks, you should see

The seedlings coming through the dirt. As they grow, weed out the weaker plants, leaving the stronger ones to grow.

When they reach a 5-6 inches tall, you can transplant into larger pots, or into your garden. Easy and fun for kids to watch

their tomatoes grow into plants, then to actually watch the fruit grow.

Braided Grocery Bag Place Mat



- Supplies needed:
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- Plastic Grocery Bags
- Parchment Paper
- Iron
- Scissors
- Straight Pins

Cut your bags into strips and braid them into long strips. Wind them into a circle, pinning them along the way to hold them in place.



Once your mat is as the size you want, place full size bags over the back of the entire mat. Then lay parchment paper or wax paper over the bags.

Using an iron on a low setting, iron over the entire mat, “gluing” the bags to the back of your mat. This will create a backing that will hold it in place. You can then remove the pins.



Image from: <http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-a-Rug-from-Plastic-Grocery-Bags>



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I use my mat under my dog's bowl. It keeps the floor dry, and allows me to reuse the bags for something useful instead of throwing them away.