



# Project - February 2019

Go date: Sat 02 February

During February, Sewing for Charity Australia's main project will be sewing washable sanitary pads, liners and drawstring bags. These items will be distributed to teen girls and women in the Solomon Islands via a church group based in Toowoomba, QLD.

## Who are we supporting this project?

The charity partners we're focusing on during this project are:

- Teen girls and women in the Solomon Islands

## Details

Whilst we will gratefully accept ALL types of reusable pads and liners for this project, we prefer the base+liner style at this time due to conditions in the Solomons. Being able to wash and dry quickly, and adjust to flow is important.

PLEASE NOTE: Please pay attention to fabric choice notes due to cultural considerations

Organisation	Item	Fabric	Size	Link to tutorial
Solomon Islands	Drawstring Bag	Cotton, cotton blend	Finished size 12"x14"	Any pattern/ tutorial is fine  Note: - Double drawstring - Edges to be overlocked or zigzagged - Unlined is fine - Cotton tape or fabric for drawstring
	Liners	Flannelette/ Terry/ Toweling  <b>MUST be dark colours and/ or patterned Print must not contain food, animals, signs or symbols.</b> Please be culturally sensitive. Florals, solids and geometrics are best	See tutorials	Suggested tutorials - not mandatory, you may use your own  <a href="#">Merry Menses</a>  <a href="#">Adahy's Cloth Pad Patterns</a>
	Sanitary Pad	Cotton/ cotton blend/ flannelette  <b>MUST be dark colours and/ or patterned Print must not contain food, animals, signs or symbols.</b> Please be culturally sensitive. Florals, solids and geometrics are best  If unsure feel free to post in forum or message us to check :)	See tutorials	Suggested tutorials - not mandatory, you may use your own  <a href="#">Merry Menses</a>  <a href="#">Adahy's Cloth Pad Patterns</a>  Note: Please use size 20 snaps if doing them yourself  Pads can be sent in unsnapped and finished at the Lair

## How many do we need?

As many as we get!

Each pack will contain 2 pads and 10 liners

## How else can I help?

Unable to sew for this project but still want to contribute? Here are a few other ways you can help:

### A. Are you local to The Lair?

- We need a number of volunteers to help cut fabric for this project. Got a hand or two spare to help hold something steady? Got a good eye for a straight line (with a ruler involved too!)? We want you! Get in touch with Cass today!
- We need many hands to sort and pack the bags throughout the project. Come to a regular Friday Community Collaboration Day, or, let us know when you're free to help.

### B. Do you have a good eye for a bargain (or, just enjoy shopping!)?

- We need large snaplock bags
- We need new women's underwear in a variety of sizes
- We need new facewashers (can be made from toweling and overlapped).

## Important dates

Items need to **arrive** at the lair no later than **Wednesday 6th March**.

## Where do I send things?

Send any finished items or donated materials to "The Lair":

38 Bladensburg Drive  
Waterford QLD 4133

## FAQs

### I. Can I use my Days for Girls Australia patterns?

- A.** No, at least not without permission directly from them. Days for Girls patterns are patented and copyright. To obtain these patterns an agreement is made not to donate finished items to other organisations. However, if you are part of a DFG chapter and have followed internal organisation protocols and wish to donate items/ kits to us we welcome this - we are very supportive of DFG!

### II. Can I use other free and paid patterns?

- A.** Yes! The patterns provided are suggestions only. Please share any great patterns you have found in the volunteer forums so others can use them too.

### III. Do I need to pre-wash my fabric?

- A.** Yes please! Fabric should be pre-washed hot OR washed cold and dried in a clothes dryer on hot. This serves several purposes - removal of residual dye that may run / bleed; removal of factory chemicals / residues from the fabric manufacturing process; shrinking of fabric (if it is inclined to do so). This process needs to occur BEFORE cutting.

### IV. I need fabric for this project. Can this be sent to me?

- A.** Yes! We can send you fabric from donations at the lair. If possible, please consider covering postage.

### V. Where do I send completed items?

- A.** Completed bags should be sent to The Sewing Lair; 38 Bladensburg Dr Waterford QLD 4133

### VI. What courier service should I use to send in items?

- A.** Use whichever courier or postal service you would like. As a guide, our volunteers have found the below services to be of good value:
- For a small number of items (up to 5kg) - Australia post satchel
  - For larger, heavier items (>5kg) - Sendle courier service

### VII. I made a mistake! Should I bother finishing / sending the item in?

- A. Yes! Many charity groups use bags of all sizes throughout the year. Even if the specific charities this month are unable to use it, be assured every bag can find a grateful home.

### VIII. I need some hands on guidance - can someone show me how to make one?

- A. Probably! Some options are below. Have a chat and we may be able to find another sewing volunteer locally you can collaborate with outside of the regular community groups!
- Video tutorials for constructing a bag will probably be on YouTube - try a simple Google search.
  - Post your specific question in the volunteer forums and someone will likely have the answer!

### Still have questions?

Talk to us! We'd love to say hi :)

- Email: [volunteer@sewingforcharity.com](mailto:volunteer@sewingforcharity.com)
- Post on our Facebook page or send a private message (PM).
- Post a question in our volunteer forums - [forums.sewingforcharity.com](http://forums.sewingforcharity.com)
- Call Cass on 0498 213 410