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Author

Topic: Make a pouch flap out of Cordura (56k death) (Read 2136 times)

☐ Gyrene8490

Basic Member

Senior



Posts: 195

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100 MPH Tape Expert


Make a pouch flap out of Cordura (56k death)

« on: December 21, 2009, 11:45:37 PM »

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Quote

While I try to make as many pouch flaps out of webbing as possible, there are times where it just can't be done. One of my designs uses 4" wide pouch flaps, for instance. The biggest instance where webbing can't be used is when you're using camouflage fabrics--Multicam doesn't make 3" webbing (yet); and I can't find 2" or 3" wide MARPAT webbing anywhere. In those cases, you don't want to use a solid-color webbing for the pouch flap. They end up covering most (or all) of the camouflage fabric, and negates the whole reason for having camouflage pouches in the first place.

For a long time I cut the fabric to the size I needed, doubled it over and then used 5038 tape for edge binding. There are a number of reasons to come up with a design that doesn't use edge binding, though:

1) If you're a DIY gear maker, you won't have to buy yet another type of material (the 5038 tape) that you may not use that much of;

2) Sewing edge binding SUCKS! 😞 haha! ;

and 3) (the most important reason) We have After Action Reports from both Iraq and Afghanistan that state the need to get rid of as much edge binding as possible because 5038 tape melts in IED attacks and the spattering nylon causes even more wounds.

Because of the last reason, I've gone through all of my designs over the past six months and have been able to do away with all edge binding, primarily by folding Cordura under and "hemming" it. The Cordura is more abrasion resistant than the 5038 tape, anyway. One of the last items that I re-designed to get rid of edge binding was the pouch flaps, and here's how I did it (after going through about 10 different ways to try it 😊)

First, you're going to cut your Cordura. Cut a piece that is 1" wider than you need the finished flap to be (i.e. if you need a 3" wide flap, cut the fabric 4" wide) and that is 2 times longer (plus 1 inch) than you need. In this particular example, I need a pouch flap that is 12" long and 3" wide, so I cut a piece of Cordura that is 25" long (2 times the length (2 x 12"=24) plus 1" inch equals 25") and is 4" wide.

Also cut some 1" webbing for pull tabs. The pull tabs should be 1" x 3 1/2".

I then use a pattern to mark the corners that will be cut off. These will make the 45 degree flap corners.





Here is the piece of Cordura that has been marked. You mark and cut *both* ends:



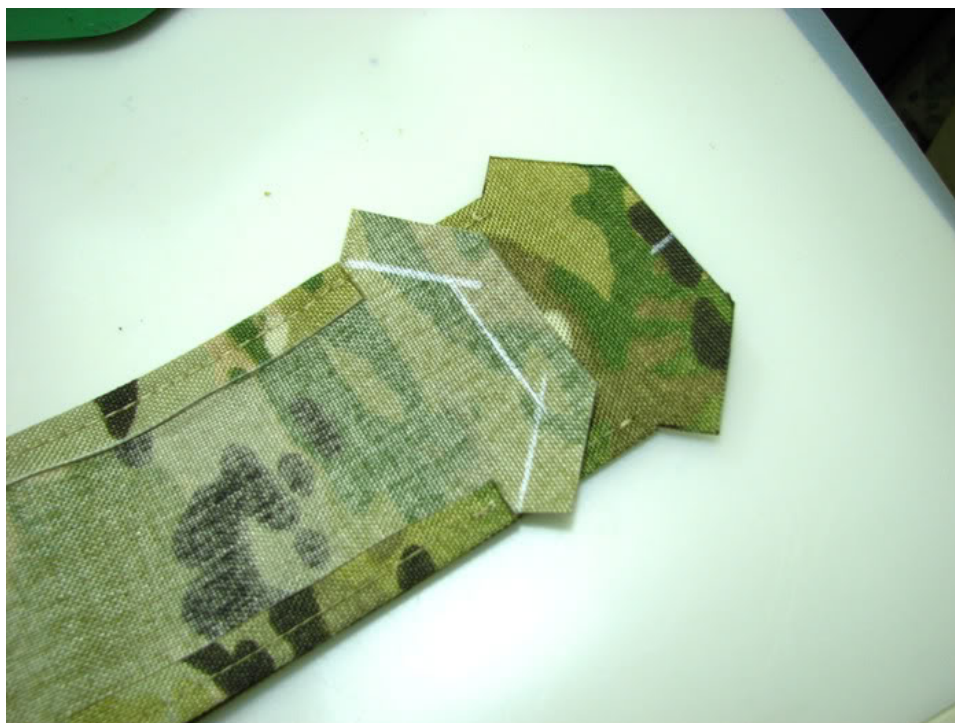
Then you cut what you marked. Note that both ends have cut:



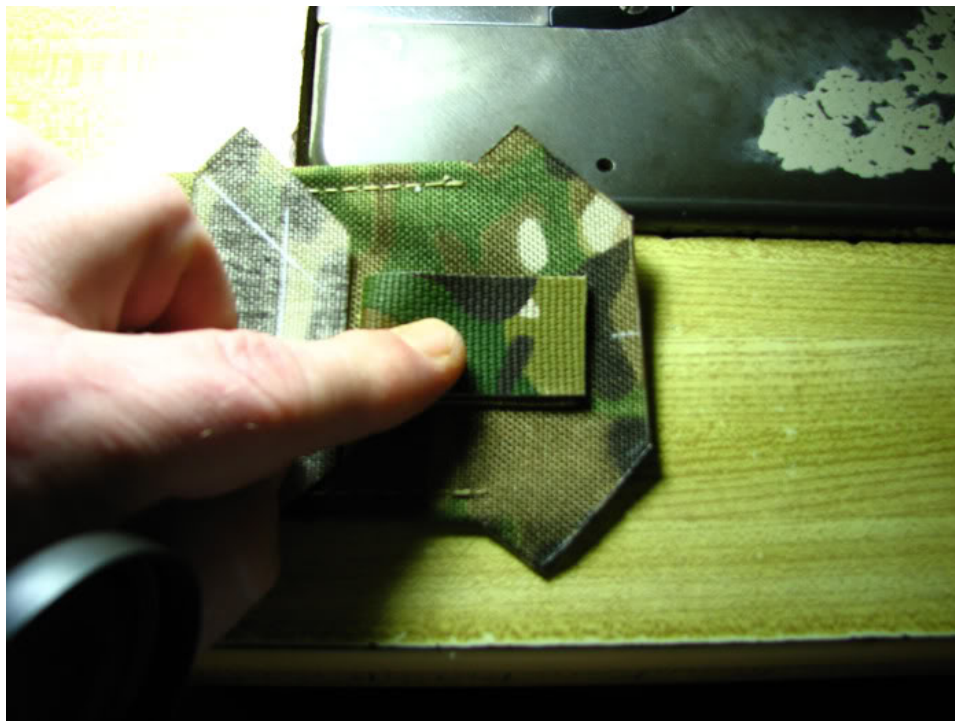
Here's the first tip/trick. 😊 I tried sewing it all at once and it sucked! So my advice is to first sew down the edges. You fold the edges over 1/2" and sew them down. At this point the main body of the flap will be its finished width--in this case 3":



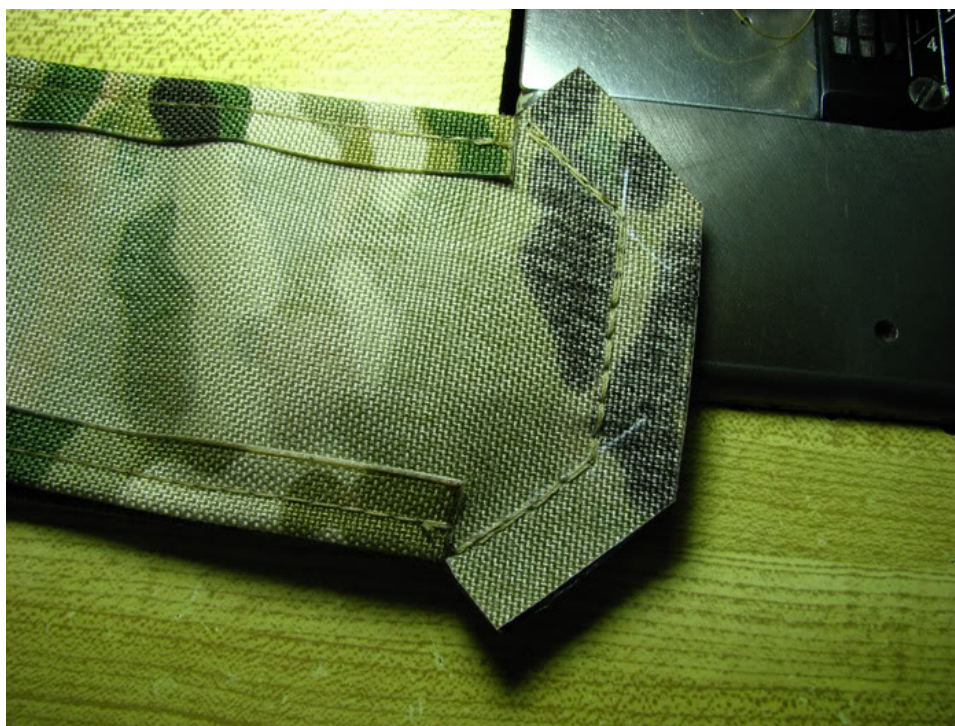
Now you mark the flap where you will sew it. You are sewing this inside-out at first! The small tick mark is where the pull tab will go. It is exactly centered from side to side. The inside flap marking follows the cuts you made, 1/2" in from the edge. You can see how the flap will have 45 degree corners when you get done:



Now to sew the edge of the flap inside-out. You line up your folded pull tab webbing with the small tick mark. **THE PULL TAB GOES INSIDE!** Remember that at this point you're working inside-out! *The photo shows how to line up the webbing with the tick mark. At that point slide the pull tab to the edge of fabric and line up the cut edge of the pull tab with the edge of the fabric. You're only sewing the end of the flap--don't sew down the sides!*



Now line up the two ends of the fabric (with the pull tab sandwiched in between) and double-sew along the line you made--once again, only the end of the flap gets sewn right now:



Now you're going to flip the flap inside-out:



And sew along the edges. Start at one corner of the pouch flap, then sew across the top (making sure to catch the pull tab in your sewing), down the side, across the bottom, back up the other side, and across the top one more time (catching the pull tab again). This way the pull tab has been sewn to the flap 4 times--twice on the inside and twice on the outside, and the pull tab will be very secure.







And here are two finished flaps--a 3" wide flap on the left and a 4" wide flap on the right:



Here are the flaps totally finished. The 3" wide flap is for M1A mags, and so I run Multicam 2" webbing along the inside of the flap to provide an extra layer of abrasion resistance so the bottom of the mags don't cut the Cordura. The 4" wide flaps are for shotgun shell pouches. Since shotgun shells don't have any sharp edges, there's no need for extra abrasion resistance, and no need for an extra piece of webbing on the inside--the double-thickness of Cordura will work well.



This is the finished 7.62 Grab and Go that the 3" wide pouch flaps go on:



You can adjust this to any size you need, and you can modify it for other things. I've seen some threads about making rucks. You could use this tutorial to make the shoulder pads so you don't need to edge-bind those shoulder pads, for instance.

Hope it helps!

« Last Edit: December 21, 2009, 11:51:49 PM by Gyrene8490 »

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@less@ndro , CDALY05, Zombiehunter, Ropeman, Iz and 1 other like this



Semper Fi!
USMC 0311 1984-90



Gear Locker Member
Senior



Posts: 278
Liked: 3

Gyrene8490

Basic Member
Senior



Re: Make a pouch flap out of Cordura (56k death)
« Reply #1 on: December 22, 2009, 12:02:39 AM »

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Am I right in assuming (after reading twice) that the area on the outside of the stitching isn't sewn? If so how does that go wear wise? Cheers

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Bolty

Re: Make a pouch flap out of Cordura (56k death)
« Reply #2 on: December 22, 2009, 12:34:17 AM »

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Quote from: Bolty on December 22, 2009, 12:02:39 AM

Am I right in assuming (after reading twice) that the area on the outside of the stitching isn't sewn? If so how does that go wear wise? Cheers