

How to Sew a Dog Bed

Based Largely on Martha Stewart's How to Make a Dog Bed "C"

By Sharon Maynard

1. Fabric canvas or ticking comes in 54" widths and works well as it does not hold onto the dog hair.
2. The interior bed is 3" foam with an added layer of orthopedic egg crate foam. A form store* will cut to size, and you are charged by the size. Do not have them glue the two layers together.

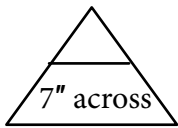
Note measurements below need to be modified for you foam thickness



3. For a 30"x40" bed you need to add additional fabric for the sides, bottom and seaming. If the length is 40", add another 8" for the sides + 1.5" for the seam: $40"+8"+1.5"=49.5"$ of fabric.
4. For width you will need 30" width + 8" for sides + 1.5" for the seam: $30"+8"+1.5"=39.5"$ width.

For the bottom you will create an envelope to insert the foam interior

5. Add another 10" to the 49.5" so it will be 59.5"x39.5". Cut that piece in half and make a hem by folding over $\frac{1}{2}$ " and press. Now fold over another 1" and press again.
6. Width (same as #4 above), 30" width + 8" for sides + 1.5" for the seam: $30"+8"+1.5"=39.5"$ width.
7. Top stitch the opening flap. Put wrong sides together.
8. With the top and bottom wrong sides together, pin all around the rectangle and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Set the seams with the iron.
9. Turn inside out. Steam iron really well. Sew $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam all around the rectangle. This creates a French seam that will enclose all you seams.
10. Now it is time to make the boxed corners. With the point sticking up, separate the two layers of fabric. Lay the separated fabrics back together and flatten as you line up the two seams—one under the other. Take the corner and flatten it to make a triangle. Go from the top of the corner and slide down to where a measuring tape measures 7" across and mark with tailors chalk, fabric marker or pin.



Stitch across where you marked the 7". It works best if both seams are facing in the right direction (the same direction). Sew across the marked line, back stitching on both sides. **Sew slowly** over those thick seams. Repeat for all four corners. **DO NOT clip off the triangles** you have sewn on 7" piece of foam in the corner. This allows you to fit your foam right in the corner.

11. Make another identical cover out of muslin to fit over the foam in case there is an accident. If the two pieces of foam are not glued together, this will keep the two pieces of foam together. Slide the foam with the inner cover into the outer cover. You now have your new washable covered doggie bed!

***NOTE:** Source for foam cut to your specifications in Greenville SC is Contour South in Piedmont SC. Their foam is larger than Martha Stewart's video. The Army Navy store also cuts foam with varied heights however they do not have the egg create foam (which is considered orthopedic foam) to add to the top.

These directions have been modified to accommodate Contour South's foam size and a couple added clarifications to Martha Stewart's very good directions which can be found at <http://www.marthastewart.com/908431/how-make-dog-bed>. Ms. Stewart's directions have slightly been modified mostly for different foam thickness and clarity