

## **How To Make Hook & Loop (Side Closure) Silver Whinnys®**



**When printing this file, approve your printer's request to print "outside the margins".  
That way you will print everything on each page.**

## **Background and dispelling any ideas about taking short cuts!**

If you are skilled at machine sewing and are patient, you can add hook & loop to your socks.

If either you or your equine do not have physical limitations, you will find that normal Silver Whinnys® that pull on over the hoof are a perfect inexpensive solution to bandaging and leg protection.

Adding Velcro requires some sewing skill to make. Take your time. Don't take short cuts. Enjoy the project because the more time you spend building them correctly, the more durable the socks will be.

No matter how many socks you need, don't build all of them at once. Begin with making one sock. The first sock will teach you how to make the following ones.

Do not take short cuts. The instructions will lead you to a durable sock. Everything that you do has a reason and a purpose. For example, the reason for adding a portion of another sock to a single sock is to gain width to accommodate the Velcro. When this sock is finished, you will continue to have sock material against the leg and not Velcro.

Adding width can be important when the sock must fit a larger leg or a swollen leg, and if you follow the instructions, you can gain the custom width you need and at the same time be sure that there will be nothing but the sock against the skin tissue.

If you have questions regarding how to make the sock a correct fit, Sox For Horses is as close as a phone call or e-mail to help support you through this process. 850-907-5724 or [soxforhorses@gmail.com](mailto:soxforhorses@gmail.com) or [contact us](#) on line.

Velcro can solve challenging bandaging issues, but when you have a horse that can pick up its legs, and you are not physically challenged, a much easier custom option to increase the size of the socks is "Build-Your-Own-Draft-Sox-From-Silver-Whinnys.pdf". These instructions are not only for building Draft size socks. They can help you increase the width of the socks for any size horse when edema is present and the horse is not able to wear the normal size sock until the edema is gone.

Velcro socks can be a great solution but are a more complex sewing project than simply adding width.

You are welcome to contact us any time for support when building these socks. Our goal is to help horses and if you can sew, have a good machine, or know a friend or relative that can sew, then building them yourself can save you a sewing fee.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED** (Based on building 4 Velcro socks.)

- If you are making 4 socks, then you will need in the least, 6 Silver Whinnys.
- If you making them for very large horses, draft horses such as Clydesdales, or dealing with draft horses suffering from edema, you may need 8 SilverWhinnys to make 4 socks.
- If you only need one pair, for an issue on one leg, then a set of 4 socks will make two Velcro socks.
- Contact us if you have any questions about how many socks you will need.
- 3/4 yard of fabric. We use a good quality quilting polyester/cotton, fabric.
- 1/4 yard of Fusable Interfacing, Medium Weight. You will cut into 4 strips 4" wide and equal to the length of the Velcro that you put on the socks.
- Thread, White: Polyester covered cotton 50 weight thread.
- Machine needles: 100/16
- Sewing Machine in good working order.
- Sharp scissors
- 6" sewing quage ruler.
- 3 yards Velcro: Heavy Duty "Sew On". 2 Inch Wide, Heavy Duty Loop And Hook.

### **More on Hook & Loop aka Velcro®**

Seldom do you find heavy duty, sew on velcro in fabric stores. Go to amazon. Com Search "sew on heavy duty velcro"

BEGIN. Begin with 2 Silver Whinnys.



↑ *This Is The "Foot" Of The Sock*

SHARP SCISSORS NEEDED!! CUT ONE SOCK ONCE DOWN THE SIDE TO OPEN IT UP AS ONE PANEL . CUT ON THE FOLD. THE FOLD IS THE BEST GUIDE TO KEEPING A STRAIGHT LINE DOWN THE SOCK. CUT AS STRAIGHT AS YOU CAN. MAKE ONE CUT. PUT THAT SOCK DOWN.

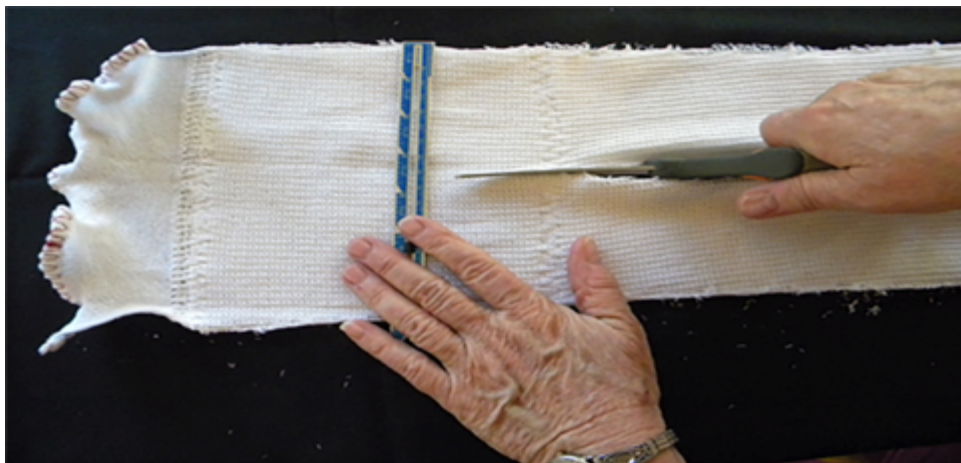


*Cut along the knit to help you keep a straight line.*

CUT THE SECOND SOCK INTO TWO PIECES. ONE OF THOSE TWO PIECES WILL BE USED TO ADD WIDTH TO THE SOCK YOU ARE BUILDING AND WILL ACCOMMODATE THE HOOK & LOOP THAT YOU ARE ADDING. THE OTHER HALF SOCK WILL BE USED TO MAKE YOUR SECOND HOOK & LOOP SOCK. NOTHING WASTED.

YOU WILL NEED YOUR SEWING RULER SO THAT WHEN YOU CUT THE SECOND SOCK IN HALF AGAIN, YOU WILL BE CUTTING THE SOCK INTO TWO EVEN PEICES.

ATTENTION! YOU ARE ONLY CUTTING ONE OF THE SOCKS IN HALF. THE OTHER SOCK YOU ARE LEAVING IN ONE PIECE. THE RULER GUIDES YOU TO A "STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE CUT".



*Use the ruler to help you cut exactly in half*





*Now you have one sock that was only cut once and another half sock.*

YOU ARE USING THE HALF SOCK BECAUSE YOU ARE GOING TO ADD A 2" WIDTH OF HOOK & LOOP PLUS ADDING FOR SEAM ALLOWANCES. YOU NEED THIS EXTRA WIDTH TO MAKE SURE THAT NOTHING BUT SOCK IS AGAINST THE SKIN WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED. IF YOU DIDN'T ADD THIS EXTRA HALF SOCK, YOU WOULD LOSE THE ABILITY OF THE SOCK TO STRETCH AROUND THE LEG AND YOU WOULD HAVE VELCRO AGAINST THE SKIN INSTEAD OF SOCK. NO SHORT CUTS! THIS IS THE WAY TO DO IT!

IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO USE A MODERN SEWING MACHINE, BUT ANYONE THAT KNOWS THEIR SEWING MACHINE IS GOING TO BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT A GOOD FINISH FOR THE EDGES IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE SAME SETTINGS AS SHOWN.

MOST MACHINES OFFER A 7mm STITCH WIDTH AND SERPENTINE SETTINGS AND EVEN THOUGH 7mm ISN'T AS WIDE AS 9mm, YOU WILL SEW THE EDGES TWICE FOR STRENGTH. AS LONG AS YOU ARE CAREFUL TO CAPTURE BOTH LAYERS OF THE SOCK AS YOU SEW, 7mm WIDTH STITCH IS FINE.

IF YOUR MACHINE DOES NOT OFFER A SERPENTINE STITCH, A ZIGZAG STITCH CAN WORK TOO. ADJUST IT FOR OPTIMUM WIDTH, BUT DON'T SPREAD THE STITCH OUT. KEEP THE STITCHES COMPACT BUT LONG IN WIDTH. FINISH TWICE.

FINISH THE EDGES OF THE SOCK PEICES OR THEY WILL UNRAVEL. THEY ARE NOT SO UNSTABLE THAT THEY WILL UNRAVEL AT A TOUCH, BUT FINISH THEM RIGHT AWAY BEFORE GOING ANY FARTHER.

WE USE MACHINES THAT GIVE US A 9mm WIDE SERPINTINE STITCH. YOU CAN SEE A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE SERPINETINE STITCH ON THE "FOOT" OF THE SOCK IN EITHER RED, GREEN, OR YELLOW THREAD DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF THE SOCKS YOU ORDERED.



*Photo shows that choosing '4' is choosing a serpentine stitch. See if your machine also offers you a serpentine stitch. On the left side of the photo you see how the stitch will look. The machine is set at the Serpentine pattern, 9mm, and the stitch length is 1.5. You can use 1.75 too.*

**AS YOU FINISH THE EDGES, FEED THE SOCK GENTLY PAST THE NEEDLE. NO STRETCHING OR PULLING ON THE SOCK!!** MOST MACHINES ALLOW YOU TO EASE THE TENSION ON THE PRESSURE FOOT AND THIS WILL HELP THE SOCKS GO THROUGH WITHOUT PULLING AND STRETCHING.



*Feed the sock gently through the presser foot without pulling or stretching. Adjust The tension on the presser foot so that pulling is not necessary.*

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CAPTURE BOTH LAYERS OF THE SOCK WHEN FINISHING THE EDGES.

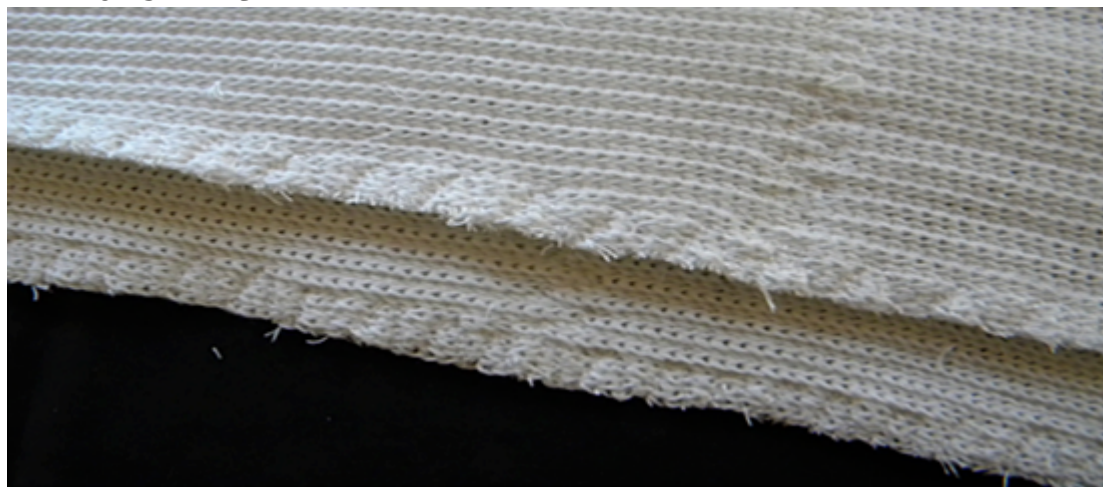
GENTLY USE YOUR FINGERS TO URGE THE SOCK UNDER THE PRESSURE FOOT AND MATCH BOTH EDGES OF LAYERS OF THE SOCK AS IT GOES PAST THE NEEDLE.



*Note how the seamstress is matching the two layers together as the sock is fed toward the needle.*

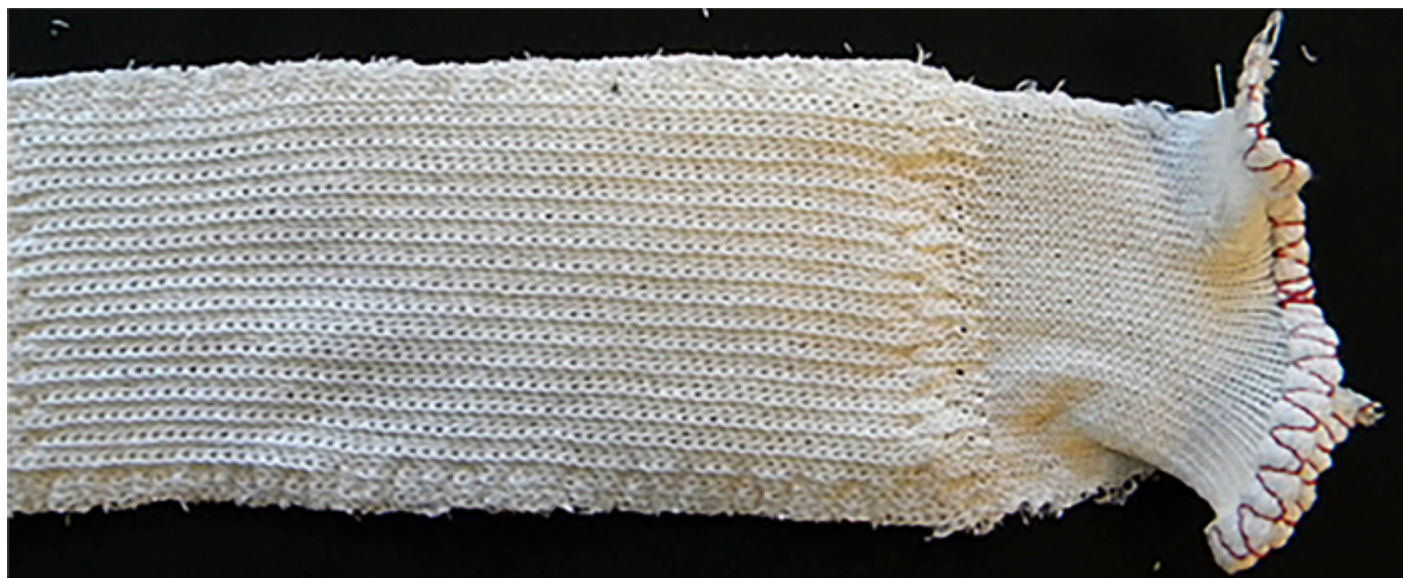
WHEN THE EDGES OF BOTH SOCK PANELS FINISHED, TRIM OFF THE FUZZ AND THREADS FROM THE EDGES WITH SCISSORS. BE CAREFUL. DON'T CUT THE SEWING. YOU ARE ONLY CLEANING UP THE EDGES. THERE WILL BE MORE FUZZ AS YOU GO ALONG. YOU CAN CLEAN IT UP AS YOU GO.

THIS IS WHAT THE FINISHED EDGES SHOULD LOOK LIKE. THEY ARE SMOOTH, EVEN, AND THEY ARE NOT STRETCHED IN ANY WAY.



*This is what the finished edges should look like. They are smooth, even, and they are not stretched in any way.*





*Note the roll of sock at the foot. ↑*

IF YOU LOOK AT YOUR UNCUT SOCKS, YOU WILL SEE THAT THEY ARE ROLLED AS THEY ARE FINISHED WITH THE RED, GREEN OR YELLOW THREAD. IT ROLLS TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE SOCK. NOTHING BUT A SMOOTH SURFACE IS AGAINST THE SKIN. THE ROLL IS ALWAYS MADE TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE SOCKS.

WHEN YOU SEW PANELS TOGETHER, MATCH THE ROLL AT THE FOOT OF ONE PANEL TO THE ROLL OF THE FOOT AT THE OTHER. REMEMBER, THE ROLL IS ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE SOCK. YOU WANT TO KEEP THAT ROLL ON THE OUTSIDE, TO LOOK GOOD, AND TO MEET EVENLY AND JOIN EVENLY.

GET TO KNOW THE INSIDE FROM THE OUTSIDE AS SHOWN BY THE WAY THE ROLL OF THE SOCK IS SEWN IS A GOOD IDEA. YOU WILL FEEL GREAT WHEN YOUR SOCKS ARE COMPLETE AND LOOK GOOD.



*It's hard to see here but this is showing the inside of the sock. You will be able to tell better by looking at your uncut socks. They will show you clearly what is the outside and inside of the sock and you want to keep it that way all through construction.*



WHEN YOU SEW THE SOCKS TOGETHER, THE SEAM ALLOWANCES WILL BE 1/2 INCH. OVERLAP THE TWO PIECES BY ONE HALF INCH AND PIN THEM TOGETHER. THE ROUGH SIDE WILL BE UP. THE SMOOTH, SOFT SIDE, DOWN.



*In the photos you are looking at the inside of the sock. The top and bottom are perfectly matched because the seamstress was careful not to stretch the pieces as she finished the edges.*



*This is a view of an 'open-toe' presser foot.*

YOU CAN ADJUST THE WIDTH OF A STICHING PATTERN, SUCH AS THE SERPENTINE PATTERN, AND YOU CAN ADJUST THE LENGTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL STITCHES THAT MAKE UP THE PATTERN.

THIS OPEN-TOE PRESSER FOOT ALLOWS FOR THE WIDEST WIDTH OF THE SERPENTINE PATTERN WHICH CAN BE AS WIDE AS 9 mm. KEEP YOUR MACHINE ON SERPENTINE SETTINGS. SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF YOUR STITCHES TO MAKE THE INDIVIDUAL STITCHES MORE COMPACT AND STORNGER. IN THE PHOTO ABOVE, THE MACHINE IS SET AT THE SERPENTINE PATTERN, 9mm, AND A STITCH LENGTH OF 1.5, A MORE COMPACT STITCH LENGTH.

KEEP THE WIDTH OF THE STITCH THE SAME.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE SERPENTINE SETTINGS, THEN SET TO A FAIRLY CLOSE, COMPACT ZIGZAG. YOU ARE GOING TO SEW THIS SEAM ON THE FRONT SIDE AND AGAIN ON THE BACK SIDE OF THE SOCK SO THAT WILL HOLD. JUST MAKE SURE IT IS A 'WIDE' ZIGZAG,  $\frac{1}{4}$  INCH IN THE LEAST.

MAKE SURE THAT AS YOU FEED THE SOCK THROUGH THE PRESSOR FOOT AND PAST THE NEEDLE, THAT YOU ARE MAINTAINING THE 1/2-INCH OVERLAP OF THE TWO PIECES. THE PINS SHOULD HOLD IT WHILE YOU SEW BUT BE CAREFUL NOT TO STRETCH THE SOCK. THIS ISN'T A PLACE TO TAKE A SHORT CUT AND SKIP PINNING. USE YOUR THUMB BEHIND THE PRESSOR FOOT TO PRESS DOWN ON THE SEAM AND HELP KEEP THE SOCK FROM STRETCHING.





*Edge to edge, the sock panels meet evenly.*

IF YOU HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO NOT STRETCH THE SOCK PIECES, THIS IS HOW THE SOCK WILL NOW LOOK. IT IS FLAT. THE PIECES MEET EVENLY FROM THE TOP ALL THE WAY TO THE BOTTOM. BOTH SIDES OF THE SOCK ARE THE SOFT, SILVER YARN AND THE ELASTIC ROUGH SIDE OF THE SOCKS CANNOT BE SEEN.

**NEXT: SEW THE 'LOOP' VELCRO TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE SOCK.** THIS IS THE FUZZY PIECE OF VELCRO. IT IS SOFT, VS THE HOOK VELCRO THAT IS ABRASIVE AND ROUGH.

ADJUST YOUR MACHINE TO SEW A ZIGZAG STITCH THAT IS FAIRLY TIGHT.



*This is a 3.0 width and a 1.45 stitch length. You could adjust for a wider stitch.*

NOTE: IF YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE YOUR SOCKS ARE STURDY, SEW ON THE VELCRO AND REPEAT THE STITCHING AGAIN. HORSES ARE ROUGH ON CLOTHING SO WE RECOMMEND SEW ONCE AND REPEAT ON EVERY SEAM. YOUR REWARD WILL BE MORE DURABLE SOCKS.



## SEW THE LOOP VELCRO TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE SOCK.

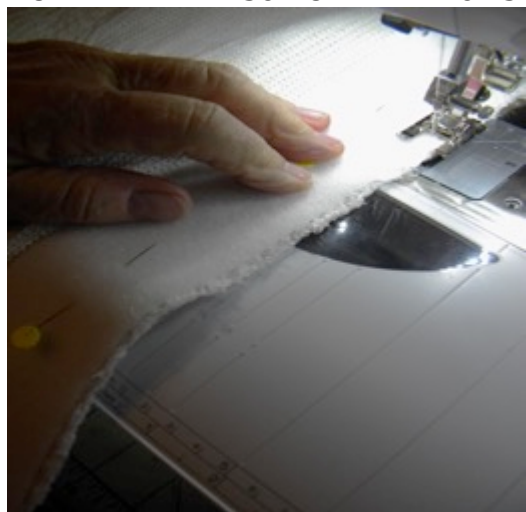
TAKE A MOMENT AND BE SURE YOU KNOW TO PIN THE LOOP VELCRO TO THE **OUTSIDE** OF THE SOCK.



*This is how it should look when you are finished.*

CUT THE LOOP VELCRO TO LENGTH AS SHOWN. FIRST, LAY IT ON THE SOCK PLACING IT EVEN WITH THE TOP OF THE SOCK AND ENDING JUST WHERE THE “FOOT” OF THE SOCK BEGINS. MAKE YOUR CUT. PIN IT IN PLACE. YOU WILL BE GLAD THAT YOU PIN BEFORE SEWING. THIS WILL HOLD YOUR WORK IN PLACE AND GIVE YOU A HIGHER QUALITY OUTCOME. DON'T CUT THE HOOK VELCRO YET.

SEW ON THE LOOP VELCRO USING THE ZIGZAG STITCH. REPEAT THE SEWING AGAIN TO ADD DURABILITY. ALSO RUN A LINE OF STITCHING DOWN THE CENTER OF THE VELCRO.





**NEXT, MAKE THE PANEL THAT WILL SUPPORT THE HOOK VELCRO.** THIS PANEL WILL MAKE UP FOR THE LOSS OF SOCK TAKEN BY THE SEAMS AND VELCRO. IT WILL ALLOW THE SOCK TO CONTINUE TO STRETCH AROUND THE LEG.

NEEDED:

YOUR FABRIC

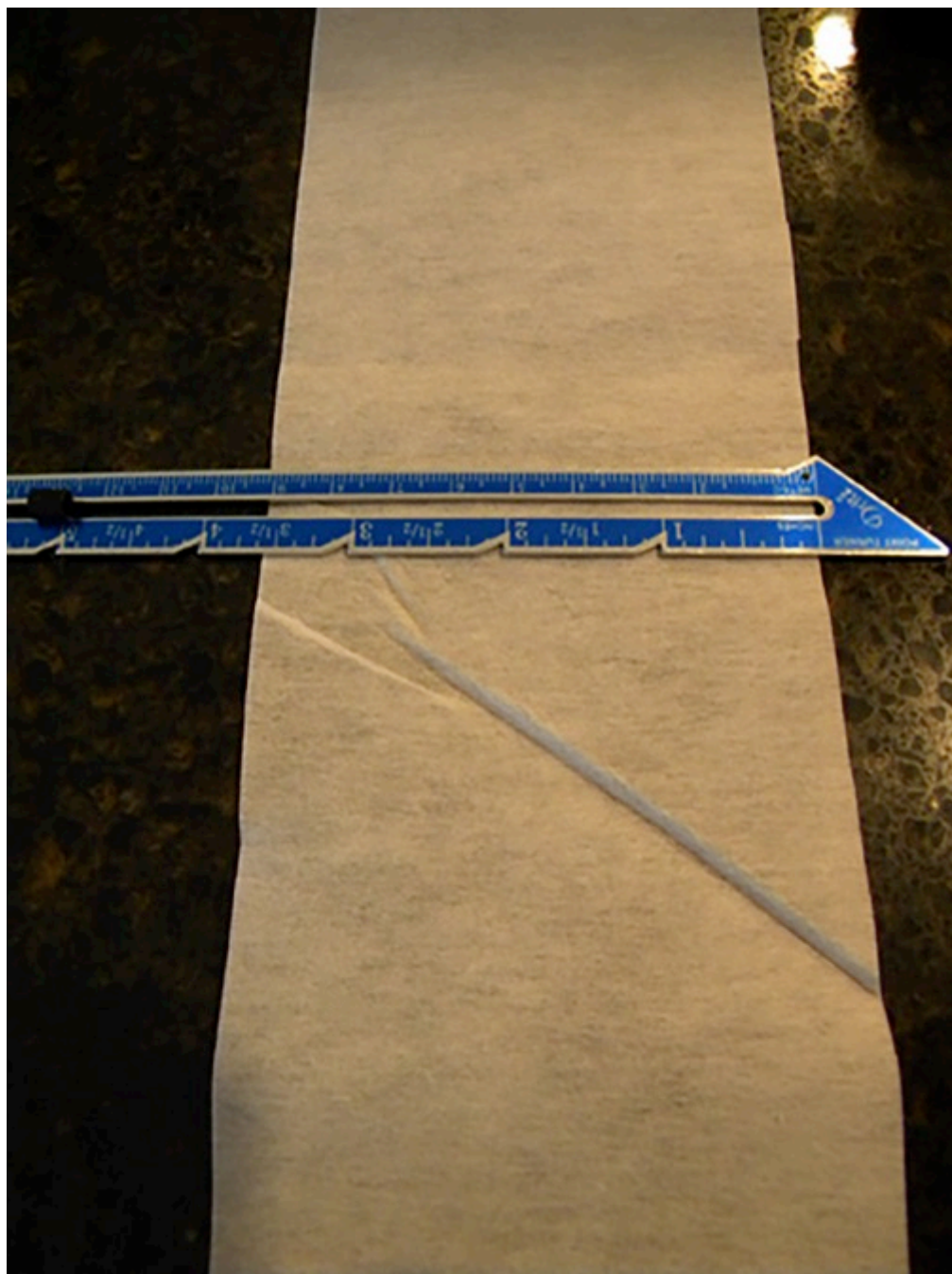
THE FUSIBLE INTERFACING WHICH YOU CAN ALSO FIND AT ANY SEWING SUPPLIES STORE.

LAY THE FABRIC ON YOUR CUTTING TABLE. MEASURE AND CUT A STRIP OF FABRIC THAT IS 5 INCHES WIDE AND AS LONG AS THE FABRIC.





CUT THE FUSIBLE INTERFACING 4 INCHES WIDE EQUAL TO THE LENGTH OF THE LOOP VELCRO THAT YOU JUST SEWED ON. IT WILL BE 1 INCH SHORTER THAN THE PANEL FABRIC THAT YOU JUST CUT.



CENTER THE INTERFACING ON THE FABRIC AND IRON ON UNTIL FUSED WITH THE FABRIC. FUSIBLE INTERFACING IS IRONED ON. IF YOU GET A GOOD QUALITY FUSIBLE INTERFACING, IRONING IS EASY. CHEAPER INTERFACING TAKES A BIT MORE IRONING AND MIGHT NOT COMPLETELY ATTACH.





FOLD DOWN THE EDGES  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH ON BOTH SIDES AND ON THE ENDS AND THEN IRON AGAIN.



CUT THE FABRIC AND INTERFACING THAT YOU HAVE JUST MADE TO THE SAME LENGTH AS SHOWN IN THE PHOTO. NOTE THAT YOU WILL HAVE  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH OF EXTRA LENGTH ON EACH END.



⬅ Note that you will have  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of extra length on each end. ➡

FOLD THE PANEL IN HALF AND IRON AGAIN





FOLD THE ENDS OF THE PANEL TO CREATE A FINISHED EDGE AND THEN USE PINS TO ATTACH THIS PANEL TO YOUR SOCK.



OVERLAP THE SOCK  $\frac{1}{2}$  INCH BY THE PANEL OF FABRIC. THAT SPARE HALF INCH OF FABRIC AT THE END OF THE PANEL WILL NOW BE FOLDED IN TO MAKE A NICE FINISH. FOLD AND PIN THE PANEL WILL OVERLAP THE EDGE OF THE SOCK BY  $\frac{1}{2}$ . ATTACH THE PANEL TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SOCK.

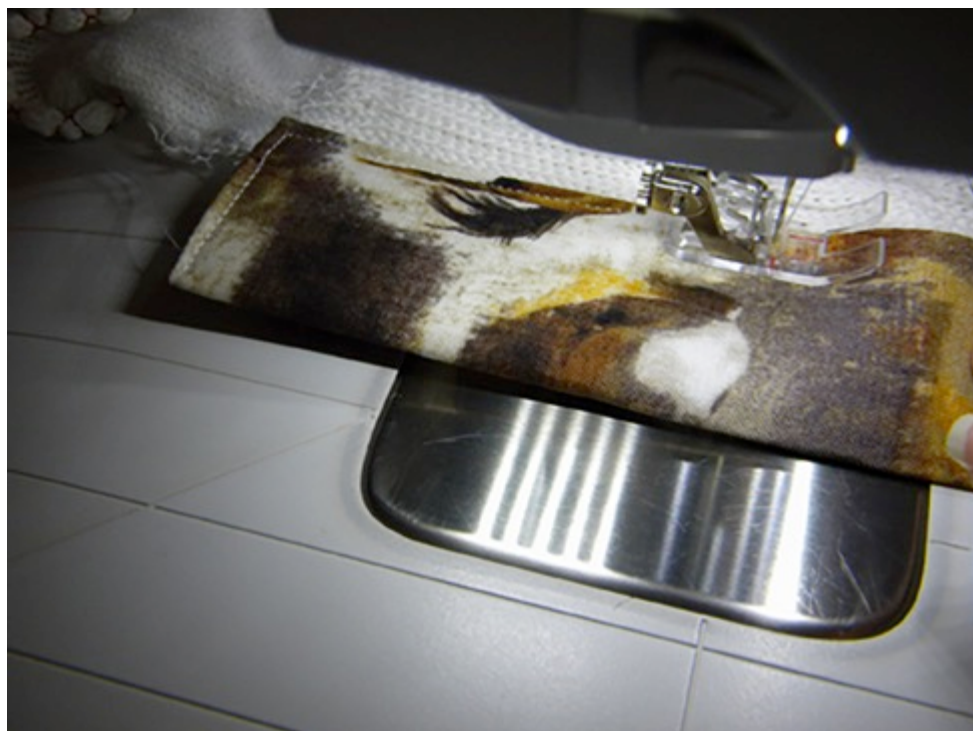


PIN THE PANEL TO THE SOCK ALL THE WAY DOWN .

COMPARE THE LENGTH OF THE PANEL TO THE LENGTH OF THE LOOP VELCRO ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SOCK. IF YOU HAVE BEEN CAREFUL NOT TO STRETCH THE SOCKS, THEY SHOULD BE EVEN.



SEW ON THE PANEL AFTER YOU HAVE PINED IT IN PLACE. HERE YOU CAN USE A SIMPLE STRAIGHT STITCH.



THIS IS HOW THE SOCK WILL LOOK WHEN THE PANEL IS SEWN ON CORRECTLY.



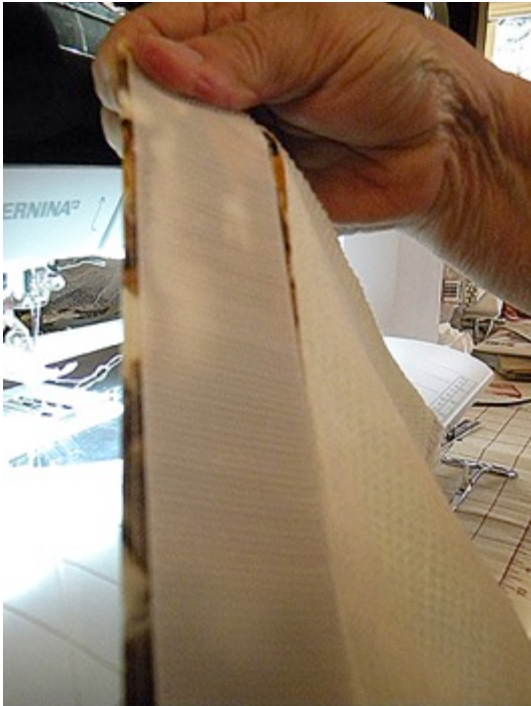
*Note: The panel is equal in length to the loop Velcro on the other side of the sock.*

NOTICE HOW THE FOLLOWING PHOTO ORIENTS YOU TO WHICH SIDE THE HOOK VELCRO SHOULD BE SEWN ONTO THE PANEL OF FABRIC. THE SOFT LOOP VELCRO IS ON THE OTHER SIDE. THE LOOP VELCRO IS OUT OF SIGHT ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE SOCK.

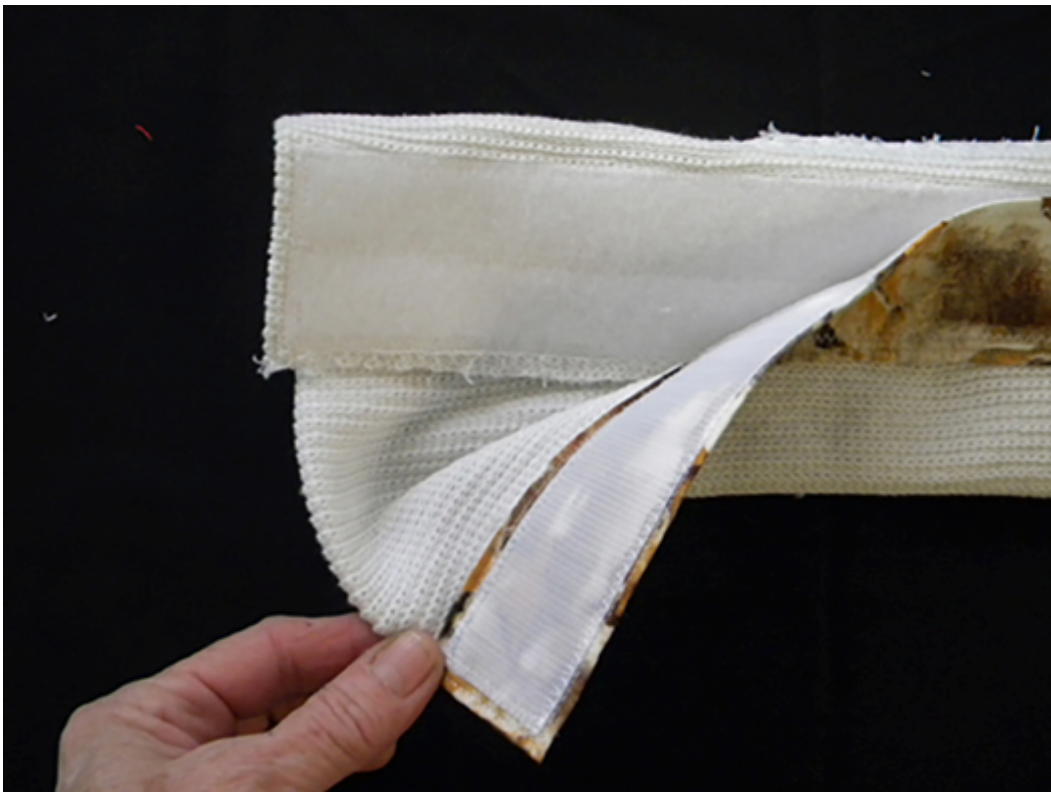




FIT AND THEN CUT THE LENGTH OF THE HOOK VELCRO TO FIT THE PANEL. PIN IT DOWN BEFORE YOU SEW!!



YOU CAN USE A STRAIGHT STITCH TO SEW THE HOOK VELCRO ONTO THE FABRIC PANEL. IF YOU PIN AND CHECK BEFORE SEWING, YOU WILL KNOW YOU HAVE IT RIGHT BEFORE YOU SEW.



*This is what it will look like when you have sewn the hook velcro on correctly.*

THE LAST THING IS TO SEW SMALL TABS OF HOOK AND LOOP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOT TO HOLD THE FOOT OF THE SOCK AROUND THE HOOF.

CUT A SMALL TAB OF HOOK AND A SMALL TAB OF LOOP VELCRO. THESE TABS SHOULD BE ABOUT ½ INCH WIDE BY 1 INCH LONG. SEW THEM ONTO THE FOOT OF THE SOCK AT THE BOTTOM. THIS IS SHOWN PINNED TO HOLD IT IN PLACE UNTIL SET STRAIGHT BENEATH THE PRESSOR FOOT OF THE SEWING MACHINE. IT IS SEWN ON MUCH STRAIGHTER THAN SHOWN.



AND FINALLY, YOU ARE FINISHED. IF YOU HAVE WORKED YOUR WAY THROUGH THIS FIRST SOCK AND HAVE THE HANG OF HOW IT ALL GOES TOGETHER, CONTINUE ON TO BUILD THE OTHER SOCKS. [Contact us](#) if you need any help.

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