Instructable - Stitch and Turn Pocket Nappy

Pocket nappies are the easiest learner sewer friendly nappy to make. The nappy only requires two layers of fabric, as you create the absorbent padding as a separate item, or use folded up cloth squares or hand towels.

You will need the following:

Nappy cut of cotton flannel, and one of micro fleece
(or t-shirting, or flannel etc Whatever you want really)
1.5cm elastic (for waist)
1 cm elastic or lastin (clean swimsuit elastic) for legs
Snaps or Velcro (for closures)
Sewing cotton
Sewing machine
MCN pattern I used the WeeWeka (size large)

Pattern:

Across the back waist of the nappy, add an extra section (small flap, see circle) to create the casing for the elastic. My pattern already has this, but you will need to add a bit if yours doesn't

Fabric:

Use your pattern to cut out one nappy body from the flannel, and one from the microfleece, making sure you cut out the waist elastic casing for both pieces (see circle).

Closures:

Using a scrap of fleece (or other fabric) to reinforce, apply either your Velcro or Snaps to the outer shell of the nappy body. Trim back the reinforcing fabric from the edge of the flannel (the reason for this will become clear).



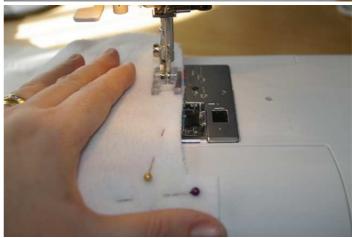


Sewing:

Place the body pieces right sides together, and pin part way along the tabs, to just past the edge of the casing flap.



Stitch, starting just before the curve of the tab, finishing just past the start of the casing (where the horizontal pin is, see arrow)



Stitching the casings:

Open the body pieces out. Fold the seam allowances and casing flaps flat, pinning in place. As you can see this creates a folded slot opening.

Stitch approximately 2cm from the folded edge, creating a casing on both the flannel and fleece, leaving the ends open.



Insert the elastic in both casings. If you do both sides at once, its much easier to keep the gathers even. Use a pin to hold the elastic in place.



Stitch across the ends of the casings, securing both the ends of the casings and both pieces of elastic at the same time.



This image shows the stitched ends of the casing.
Trim off the excess elastic.

Pull the other ends of the elastic, gathering up the fabric as you do. Ensure that the two sides



Using pins to hold the elastic in place, stitch across the ends of both casings and elastic, securing them in place. Trim close to the stitching.



The finished casings:

remain even.

When you turn the inner and outer body out, you are left with two neatly encased elastic waistbands.



Stitching the body of the nappy: Having the fabric right sides together, start at the back waist casings, and stitch all the way around the tabs, along the legs, and around the front of the nappy, using a 1cm seam allowance.



Stitching along the front:

As you can see, trimming the reinforcing fabric means that the seam is not overly thick when you come to this part of the body.



Trim around the front and back tabs, cutting back the seam allowance to about 1/2 cm (do not trim the between the elastic placement points on the legs). I use pinking shears (creates a zigzag effect), but normal scissors will do fine. Do not cut the stitching.



Leg Elastic:

Starting at the arrow (or notch) secure the start of the elastic (I have used lastin, sorry if its hard to see).

Using a narrow zigzag stitch, stitch the elastic close to the previous stitching, but in the seam allowance (on the right side of the prev. stitching). Be sure to reverse at the end to secure, and then trim.



Be sure to check that the elastic on both legs is even.





Using the waist pocket, turn the entire nappy right side out.

Using a straight stitch, topstitch close to the edge around the back tabs, and the entire front. A lot of instructions say to stitch 2cm in along the leg elastic, creating a casing, but I find this inhibits the elastic from performing well. That step is entirely up to you.

Apply studs or Velcro to the back wings.





And there is your completed nappy
Looking very spiffy!