



# Hand Sewing a Phone Case

Cedarbank School

# Developing Transferrable Skills



- Communication – reading, watching
- Employability - using organisational skills / ability to learn and adapt
- Problem solving - develop and test possible solutions / analyse and evaluate results
- Numeracy – measuring / shape and form
- Thinking - remembering, identifying, understanding, applying, analysing, evaluating, and creating.

# Video Links Help - Do you need to watch a demonstration?

How to use an iron: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Q1OC0MrjEk>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Use-an-Iron>

thread a needle and tie a knot: <https://www.wikihow.com/Thread-a-Needle-and-Tie-a-Knot>

3 stitches – running stitch, back stitch and blanket stitch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FknfumFPX8>

How to sew a button.

2 hole and 4 hole buttons: <https://www.wikihow.life/Sew-a-Button>

Video demonstration of other phone type cases: *please ignore quilting layer and measurements* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmDy0wWZ4YI>

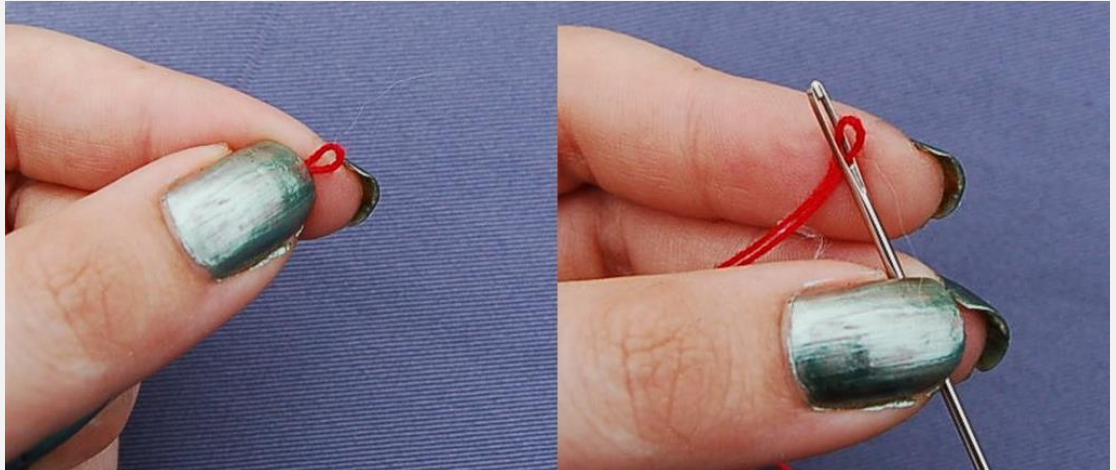
# Phone Case - supplies

You will need:

- paper and pencil to make a pattern.
- cotton fabric – an old shirt / flat cotton tea towel / old pillowcase or duvet cover. *Always ask permission first from a parent / carer before 'cutting' fabric.*
- thread
- needle and pins
- scissors
- elastic – hair band / sewing elastic / elastic band
- button. Any type. In my phone case I am using a solid top button with a rounded loop on the reverse side.



# Threading a Needle



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fg5oyLPEHwQ>

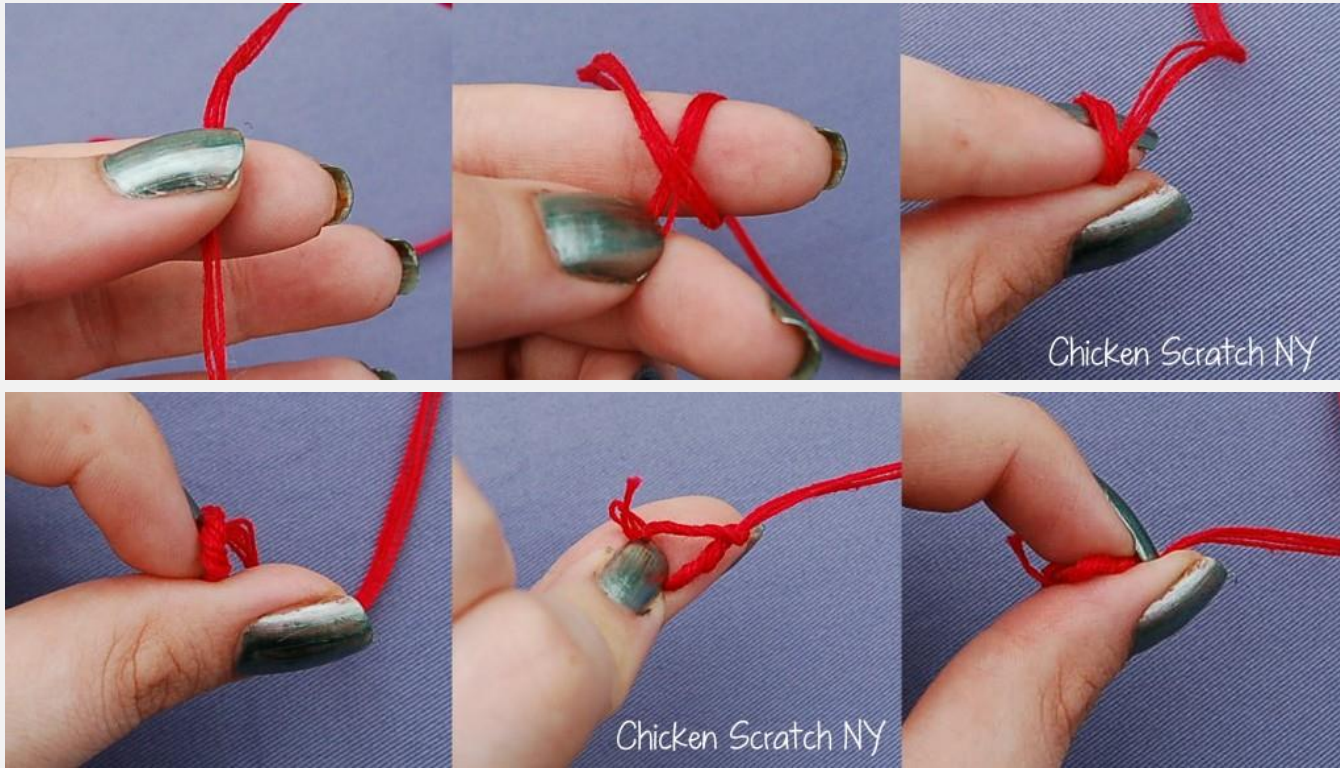
Pull off some thread from your cotton reel.

Measure a length of thread from your finger tips to your shoulder and cut the thread loose from the reel. This should be about 50cm (1/2 a metre)

Fold one end of the thread so you have a small loop (alternatively dampen the end of your thread) and push that loop/end through the eye of the needle. Your needle is now threaded.



# Tying a Knot

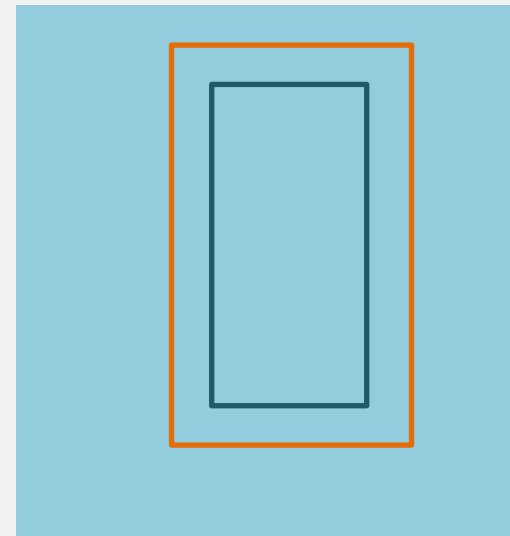


Wrap all the strands of thread around your index finger in a loop. Pinch your index finger and thread together and roll your thumb down your finger, the thread will roll into a knot. Pull it tight using your thumb nail against your finger.

# Phone Case – making a pattern

On a piece of paper draw around your phone. Using a ruler add **0.8cm** to the shape all around.

See orange line in picture.



Cut out your paper pattern.

Use the paper pattern to mark out your fabric.

I have chosen yellow fabric for my lining, and a pale blue pattern for outer fabric.



# Marking the Pattern on Fabric and Cutting Out

Using the paper template mark up your fabric using a pencil.

You need to cut

- 2 pieces for the lining of the phone case
- 2 pieces for the outer part of the phone case

I have chosen yellow for my lining, and a pale blue pattern for outer fabric. Mark out and cut.





# Iron Your Fabric



Iron your fabric so it is free of any big wrinkles before drawing out the pattern and cutting out the pieces.

Check the setting of the iron so that it is appropriate for your fabric. I used cotton, so I turned my dial to cotton. Iron the lining and outer fabric flat.

Need help?:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Q1OC0MrjEk>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Use-an-Iron>



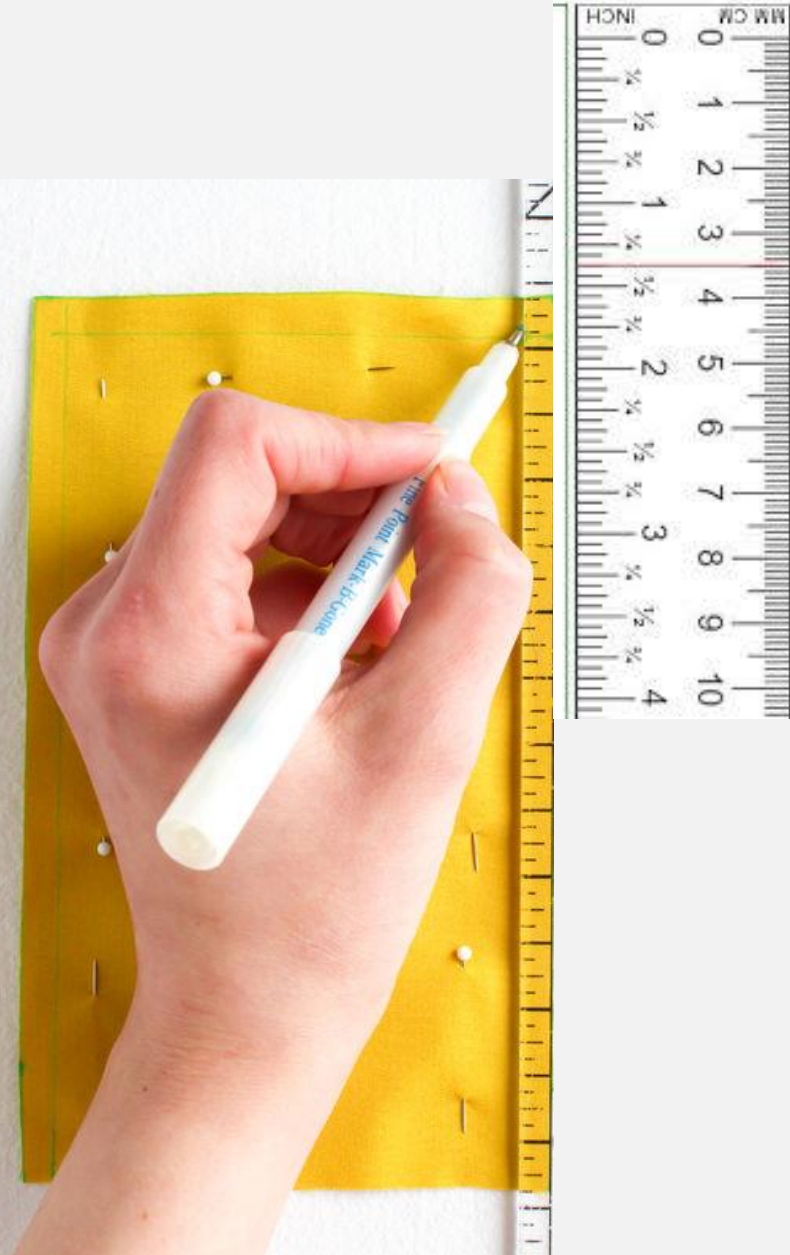
The pattern pieces are pinned together with the right sides facing each other. The "right" side is the side of the fabric that you want on the outside at the end.

For solid coloured fabric, you don't need to worry too much about it.

For patterned fabrics, the "right" side will be the one that's more colourful.



# Sewing in a straight line



I'm going to be sewing with marked seam allowances using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cm seam allowance. Using your ruler use 0.5 cm.

When I'm sewing a straight line I like to mark my sewing line with a fabric pencil but you can use a pencil. This will allow you to learn to sew in a straight line.

Mark the bottom of the pinned piece and both sides. **We are not sewing the top edge.**

# Starting to Sew



Starting at the top left or top right corner, bring your needle through the fabric from back to front and make a stitch. Make one more stitch in the same spot, but further into the seam allowance. This really locks your stitches in place!



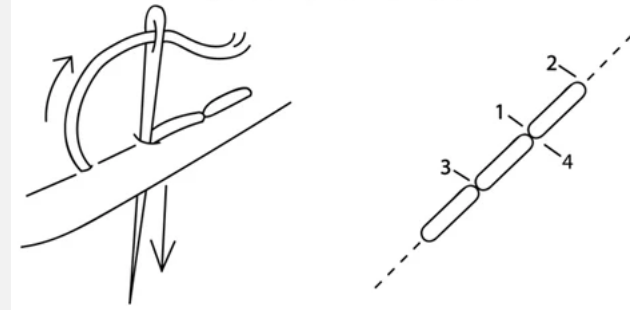
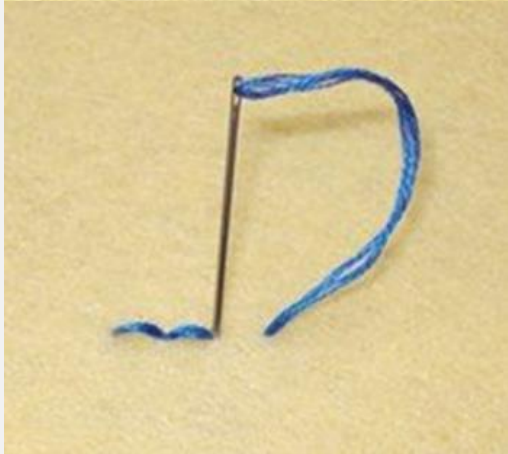
Now do back stitch along your pencil lines. Try to keep your stitches as small as you can and the same size.

Back stitch instructions coming up...



# Back Stitch

BACK STITCH



## Step 1:

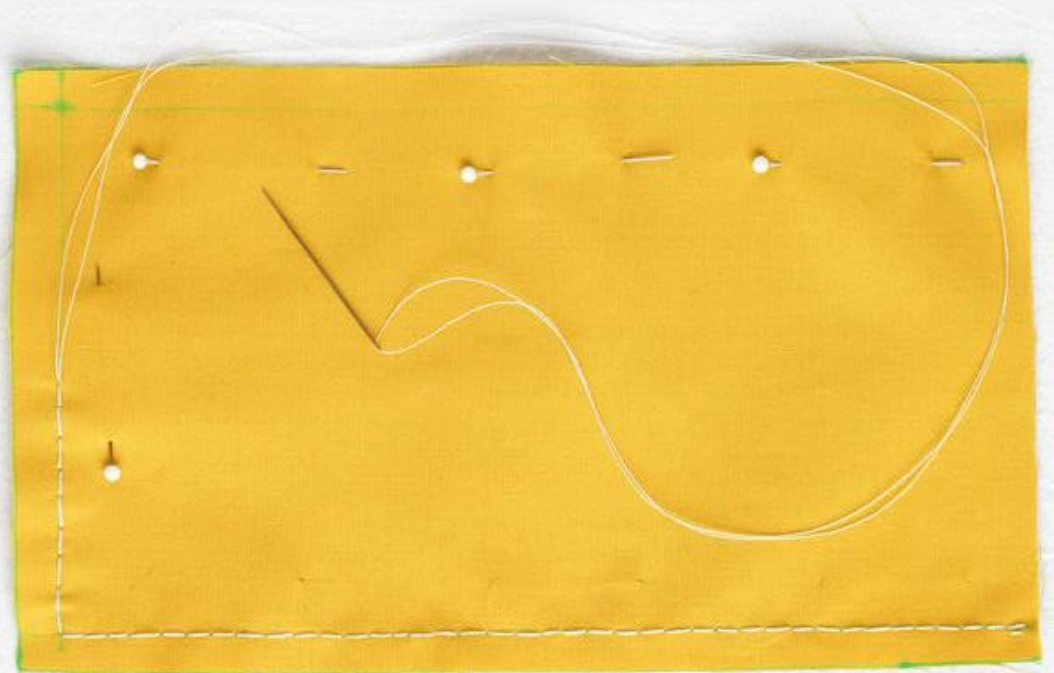
Begin the backstitch by poking the needle up through the fabric, and then back down to make a single stitch. Then poke the needle back up through the fabric a space away from the first stitch, as if you were doing the running stitch.

## Step 2:

Now poke your needle back down through the fabric at the end of the first stitch. This is the "back" part of the backstitch.

# Turning a Corner

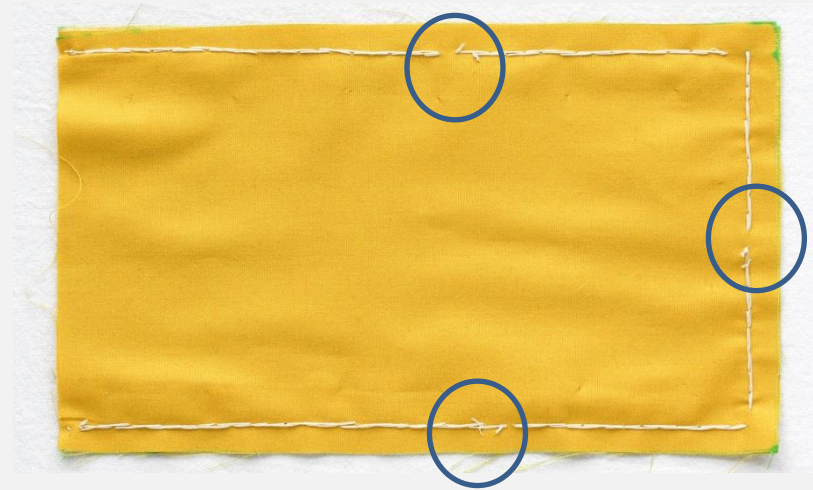
There is no need to stop sewing when you come to the corner, just change the direction of your sewing like the picture. Try to keep your stitches as small as you can and the same size.





# Sewing the lining

Sew all the way down the left side, the bottom and up the right side. As you sew past pins, remove them. Finish your seam with two stitches on top of each other.



This is the back of my work. As you can see it took 4 lengths of thread to sew this. The circles are where I had to start with new thread.

# Repeat Stitches for Outer Fabric



Repeat all your back stitch sewing for your outer fabric. Sew all the way down the left side, the bottom and up the right side.

As you sew past pins, remove them.

Finish your seam with two stitches on top of each other.

# Pressing and Finishing the Seams

Time to use the iron. Check the setting of the iron so that it is appropriate for your fabric. I used cotton, so I turned my dial to cotton. Iron the lining and outer fabric flat.



# Trimming the Seams

To reduce bulk we trim the seams. Look carefully at the picture. Be careful not to cut your stitching. **Only cut the bottom corners.**





# Turn the Outer Fabric Right Side Out

Turn the outer fabric right side out. Be gentle while turning! Even with the extra stitch for reinforcement at the top of the seam, it's still possible to pop the stitches with too much force.



# Insert the Outer Into the Lining

Once the outer fabric is turned right side out, insert it into the lining fabric. I like to use the eraser end of a pencil to push the outer fabric into to lining if the case is too small for my hand to fit in there.





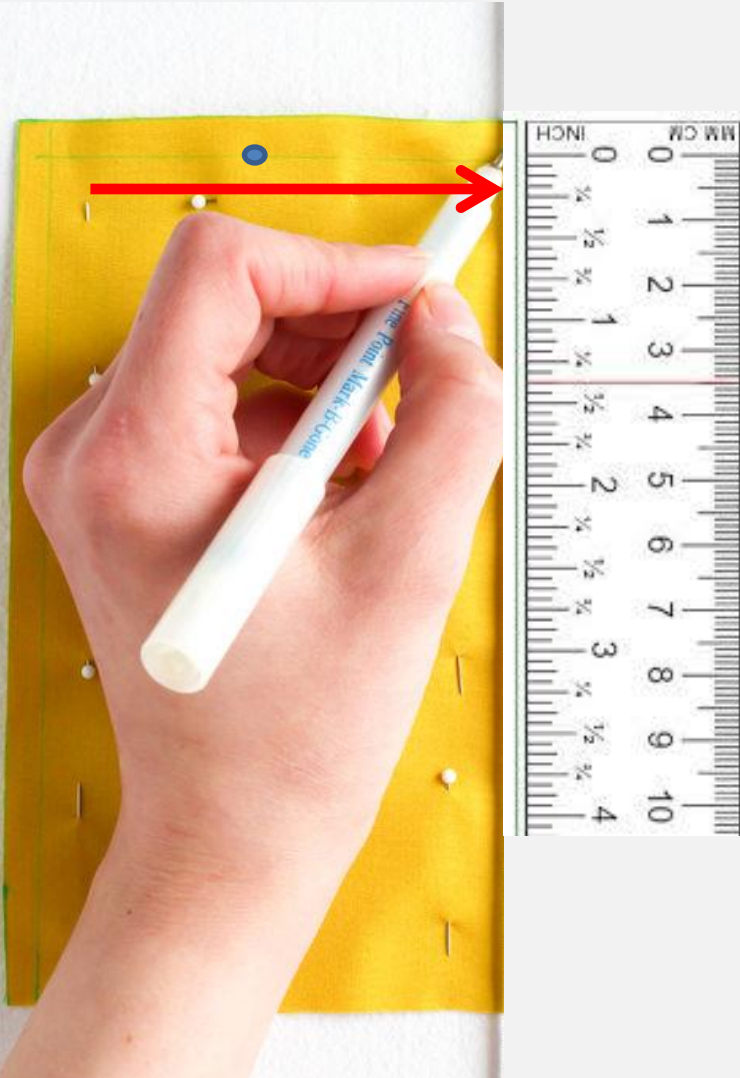
# Marking and Pinning the Case Opening



Line up the seams on the sides of the case and pin them into place (see picture). You'll need four pins for this - two for each side seam! These pins are important because they'll keep your seams from moving while you sew.

# Marking out the Top on Back Side

We are now going to mark out the top edge on the back side. I'm going to be sewing with a marked seam allowance using a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cm seam allowance. Using your ruler use 0.5 cm.



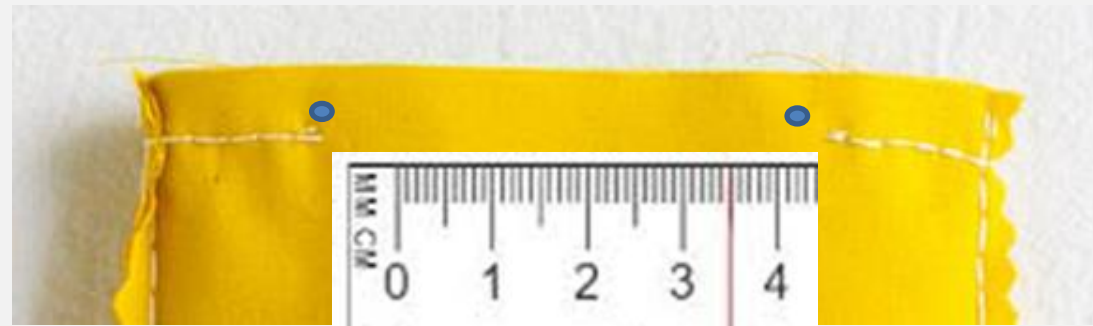
Mark the sewing line along the top with a pencil. This will allow you to learn to sew in a straight line. Using your ruler **mark a dot at the centre of this line**. This is so you can put your elastic here later.

# Marking out the Top on Front Side

We are now going to mark out the top edge on the front side marking a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cm seam allowance.

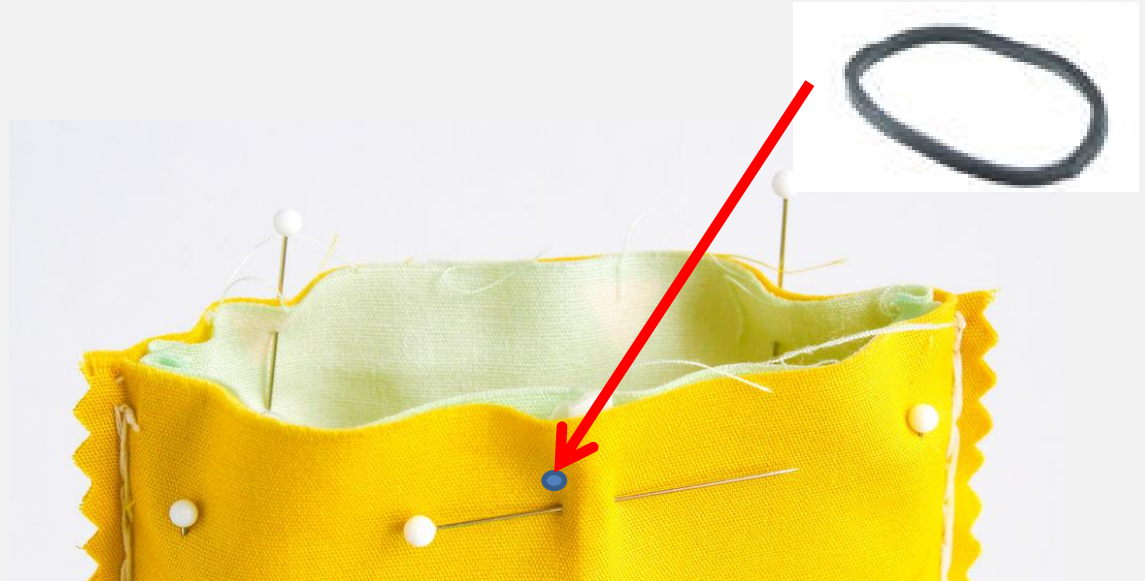


On the back mark a 4cm gap with dots that you will NOT SEW. See picture below. This is so you can turn your fabric out.



# Inserting the Elastic to the Top

We are now going to insert the elastic into the top edge of the back side before you start sewing. The elastic can be a hairband, elastic if you have any or even an elastic band if this is all you have.



Carefully pin the elastic in place horizontally with the top of the elastic meeting the top of the case. Make sure that the lining and outer fabrics are lined up.



# Stitching the Top

We are now going to be sewing the top edge. You must not sew all the way around. Leave a gap of 4cm at centre of the back of the phone case. When you come around to the elastic, **make many tiny stitches over each half of the elastic**. Wrap the thread all the way around the elastic, too.



The elastic is 'invisible' as it is in the inside of the outer and lining fabric.



# Turning Out

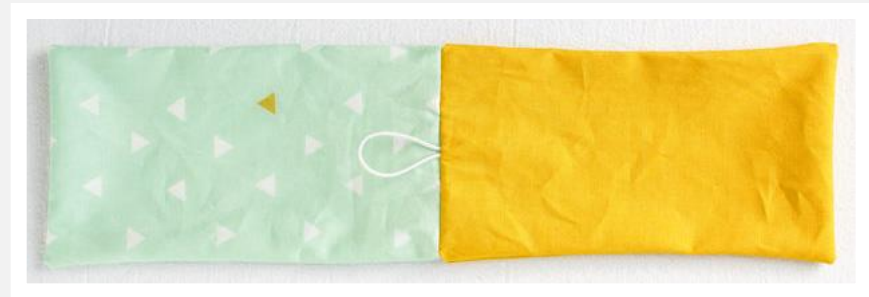
We are now going to be turning out through the gap. We want to pull the outer fabric through first. Use your fingers (or even a pair of tweezers!) to grab the outer fabric and start to pull it through. Ease it through the opening little by little





# Turning Out

We want to pull the lining fabric out now. Use your fingers (or even a pair of tweezers!) to grab the inner fabric and start to pull it through. Ease it through the opening little by little. Once the lining is flipped, stick a pencil or chopstick into the opening to push out the corners of the outer and lining fabrics. Now iron your fabric again so it is crisp.



Make sure all the corners are poked out, and then press the case. Iron again.



# Finishing Off



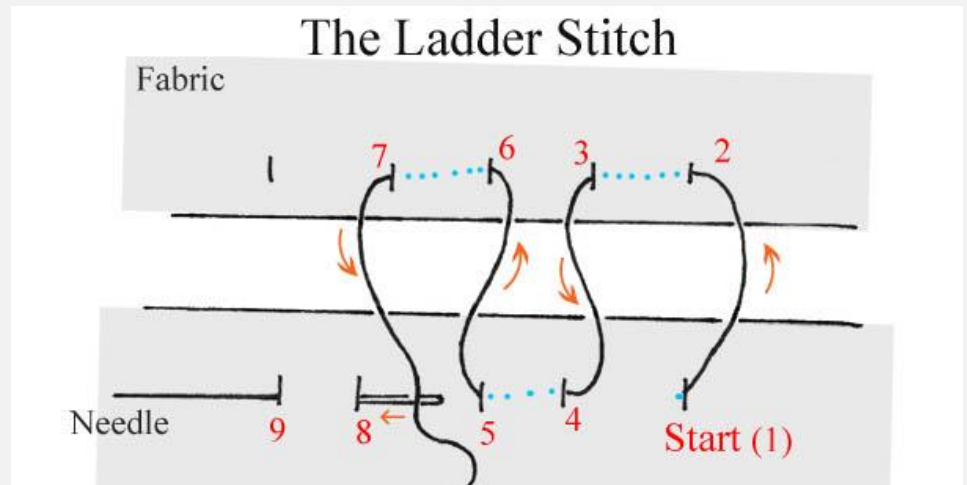
Tuck the lining into the outer fabric. Your elastic button loop should be standing up nice and straight and feel secure. We will now have to sew the 4cm gap. We will use slip stitch.



# Using Slipstitch/ Ladder stitch



You'll use a slip stitch / ladder stitch anywhere you need to close a seam cleanly from the outside. You want to start the slip stitch right before the last stitch - see how I'm inserting my needle. I am hiding the knot of the thread on the inside of the fabric.



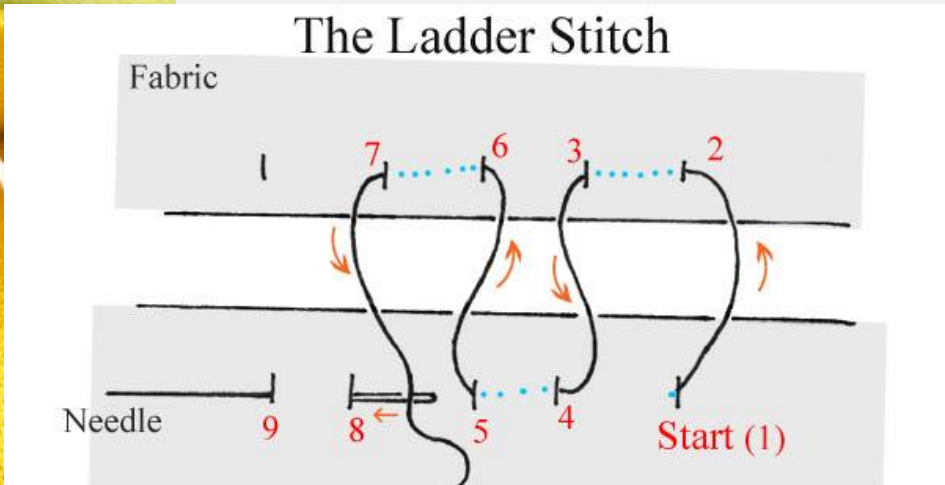
# Using Slipstitch/ Ladder stitch

Please look at the following youtube clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbE5hXt27uU>

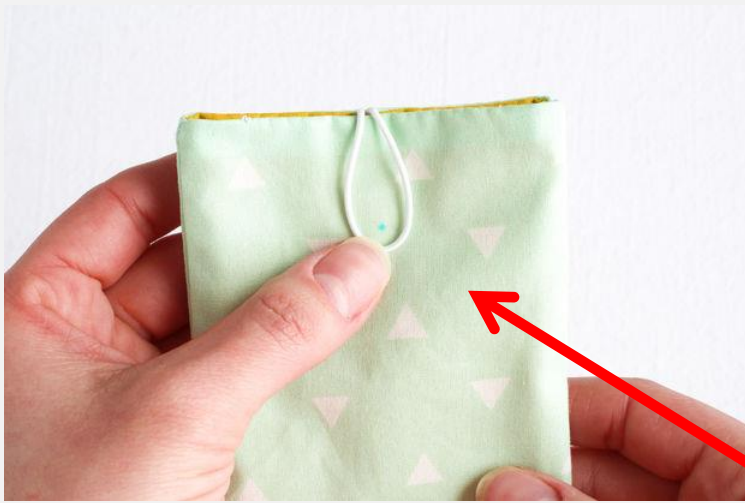
or go to Wiki how, method 3 <https://www.wikihow.com/Slip-Stitch>

If you find it difficult to do, close the stitching using whip stitch (see *Hand Sewing for Beginners pdf*).





# Sew on a Button

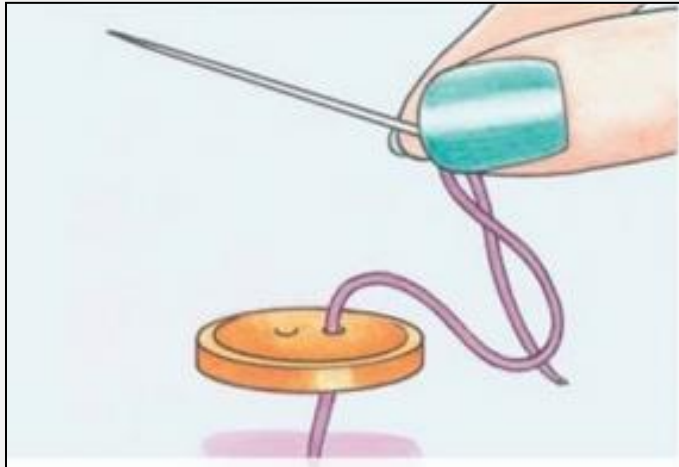


Place your case on a flat surface with the elastic loop on the bottom. Bend the loop over the top of the case without stretching it. Use your pencil to mark right above the very bottom of the elastic loop.

Sew the button on and enjoy your new gadget case.

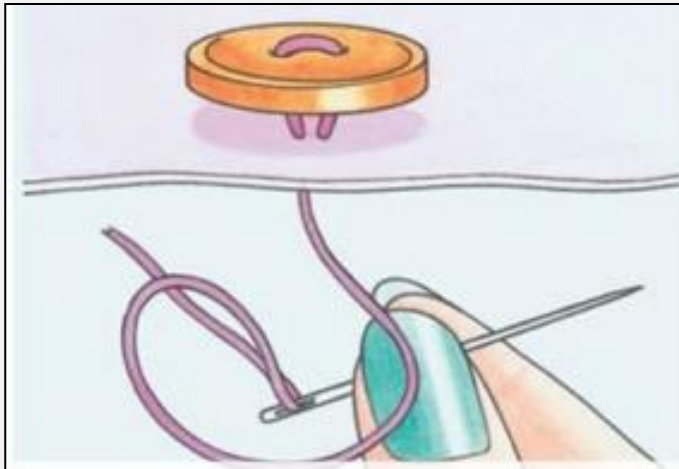


# How to Sew a 2 Hole Button



## Step 1:

Begin by poking your threaded needle up through the fabric and bring it through the button from the back.

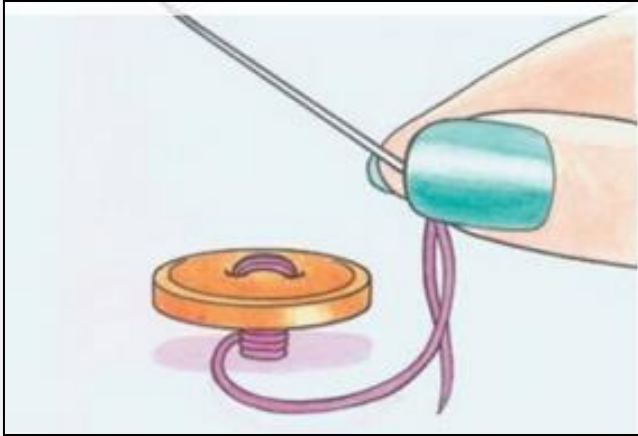


## Step 2:

Take the needle down through the other hole and through the fabric, leaving a small gap between the button and the fabric.



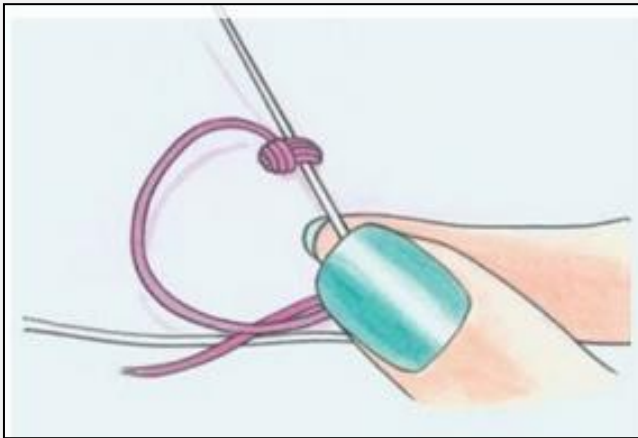
# How to Sew a 2 Hole Button



## Step 3:

Repeat the above steps one and two 6-8 times.

Then take the needle around the threads between the fabric and the button to form a shank. See picture.



## Step 4:

To finish, work on the wrong side and make a couple of stitches through the threads to secure the button.