

Instructions for sewing Stockings

SOAR needs half of the stockings sewn to be red (for girls) and half of them to be green or blue (for boys). You may choose to make some of either or both, as you have material available.

- We prefer you use a sturdy broadcloth or quilting cotton in order to safely hold the gifts and Bible which could include items such as full-size shampoo bottles, books, toys, etc.
- Cut two pieces for each stocking. From the front, the toe will be pointing to the right. Sew together the front and back (inside out so that the seam is hidden in the finished product) of the stocking, leaving the top open. The seam should be strong enough not to tear or separate when the stockings are filled and handled (serge or double-stitch the seams). This pattern allows for a 1/4 inch seam allowance.
- The top 2 to 2 1/2 inches is to be accented with a contrasting Christmas fabric or ribbon (Use sewing ribbon, not craft or wire-edged ribbon) across the top. To create this band:
 - Cut your fabric to mirror 4 to 5 inches by 10 1/2. Sew the ends together with a 1/4 inch seam (inside out).
 - Then fold your fabric in half (right side out) and iron a 1/4 to 1/2 inch fold at the opening (facing the inside of the band circumference). Do the same on the stocking but with the fold facing out (Make sure the stocking is right side out).
 - Pin the 2 inch band in place at the top of the stocking (based on the seam allowance) and sew the pieces together, giving a folded finish look to the stocking.



- The top is held closed by 1 1/2 inch to 2 inch piece of hook and loop tape (such as Velcro) centered on the inside of the top opening.
- Attach a loop (made from 6" of folded and sewn fabric or ribbon) in the upper back corner of the stocking pointing upward. Finished loop will be approximately 2 1/2 inches long. The loop should be strong and attached firmly since the children often hang their stockings and use them all year long. (You can also attach the loop in place, when you sew the band around the stocking. Simply place the ends between the two fabrics and sew across.)



Thank you for volunteering to make these stockings for the children in Russia and Abkhazia. Ultimately, we can use about 2,000 per year, so we appreciate those of you willing to contribute your time and talents. Please feel free to contact the SOAR office if you have any questions.