SIMPLE IRON COZY

Use this handy iron cozy to transport your iron to and from sewing events. The elasticized cozy is easily slipped on and off most standard-sized household irons, while the strap helps to hold the iron's cord in place. A quilted heat-resistant bottom and sides lined with heat-resistant fabric help make a recently-used iron easier to move.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

|	YARDAGE	CUT PIECES
Fabric for quilted bottom	1/4 yard	1 piece 8" x 14"
Fabric for gathered sides	1/4 yard	2 pieces 4½" x 13" / 1 piece 4½" x 4¾"
Fabric for strap	1/8 yard	1 piece 4" x 20½" / 1 piece 4" x 4"
Lightweight fusible interfacing for strap	1/4 yard	1 piece 4" x 20½" / 1 piece 4" x 4"
Ironing board fabric	1/4 yard	1 piece 9" x 15" / 2 pieces 3½" x 13" 1 piece 3½" x 4¾"
Thermal Fleece, such as Insulbrite	1/4 yard	2 pieces 8½" x 14½"
3/8" elastic	3/4 yard	24" length
3/4" hook and loop tape, such as Velcro	1/4 yard	5" length
1" rectangle ring or d-ring		

- Use mid-weight cotton or cotton/linen fabrics for the bottom, sides, and strap.

- Ironing board fabric is a silver heat-resistant fabric used for covering ironing boards. Insulbrite and similar brands of thermal fleece are used for projects like potholders and ironing board covers and look like low-loft batting with a silver, reflective layer in the middle. Both of these products are typically sold by the yard in the utility fabrics section of a fabric store.

Lightweight fusible interfacing is often only 20" wide. Rather than buying a bigger piece of interfacing for the strap, it's fine to overlap two shorter pieces to get the necessary 20½" length.

In addition to the materials listed above, you will need a water-soluble fabric marker, small safety pins, basic machine quilting supplies, tape, and a printout of the pattern on Pages 8 and 9.
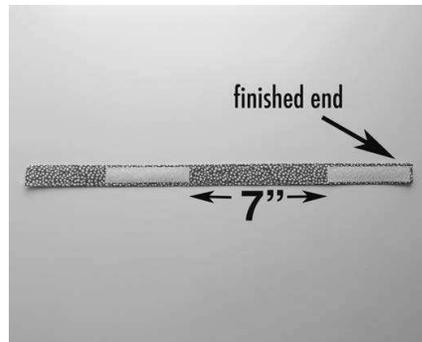
MAKING **THE** STRAP
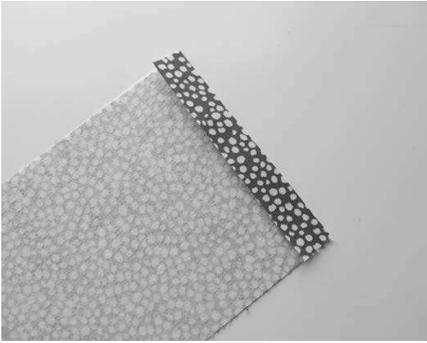
1 , Follow manufacturer's directions to fuse lightweight fusible interfacing to the wrong side of the 4" x 20½" piece of strap fabric.

Press one of the 4" ends of the strap ½" toward the wrong side.
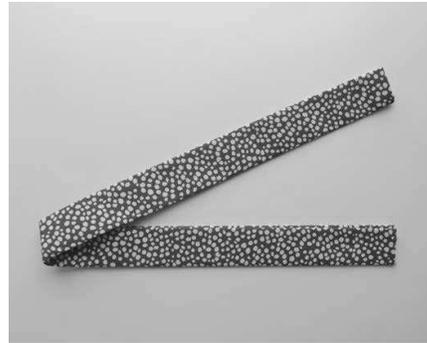
2, Fold the strap in half along its length, matching wrong sides, and press. Bring each long edge in to meet the fold and press again, creating a folded fabric strap whose only raw edge is at one of the short ends.

3, Starting at the raw-edge end of the strap, stitch around the outside of the strap.

finished end

← 7" →

4, Separate the two halves of the hook and loop tape and sew them to one side of the strap, as shown in the above photo. The hook (hard) half should be sewn near the finished end of the strap. The loop (soft) half should be sewn about 7" away.

5, Follow manufacturer directions to fuse lightweight fusible interfacing to the wrong side of the 4" x 4" piece of strap fabric.

Fold the strap in half, matching the wrong sides, and press. Bring the raw edges in to meet the fold and press again, creating a folded fabric strap whose only raw edges are at the short ends.
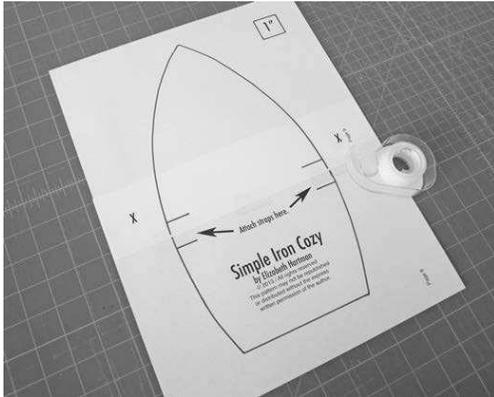
Stitch along both 4" sides of the strap.

6, Thread the strap through the 1" rectangle or d-ring. Fold the strap in half, bringing the raw-edge ends together and stitch across the strap, near the ring, to hold it in place.

If you're using ad-ring, you'll want to fold the strap around the flat (not the curved) part of the ring.

Set both straps aside for now.

MAKING **THE BOTTOM**

7, Print the pattern on Pages 8 and 9, making sure that your printer settings indicate "no scaling" or "print at 100%". Place your ruler over the box marked 1" to verify that the pattern printed at the correct size.

Tape the two sheets together, matching the "X" marks on each page. Cut out the pattern piece or trace it onto your preferred pattern paper.
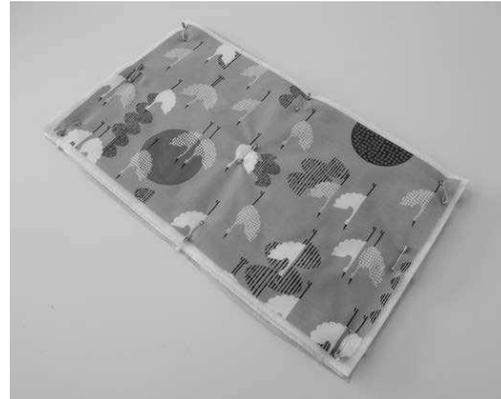

8, Place the 9" x 15" piece of ironing board fabric, wrong side up, on your work surface. Center both 8½" x 14½" pieces of thermal fleece on top of the ironing board fabric. Center the 8" x 14" piece of bottom fabric, right side up, on top of the thermal fleece.

Pin through all layers, creating a small quilt sandwich.

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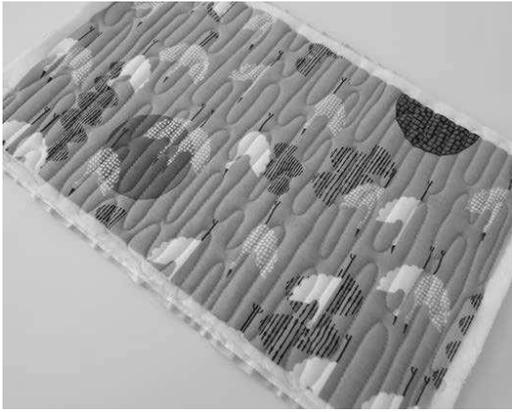
9, Machine quilt the sandwich, as desired. I free-motion quilted my sandwich, but you could just as easily use a straight-line quilting design.
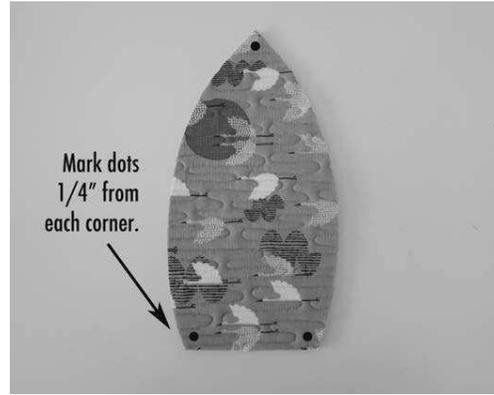
1 0, Use the pattern piece to cut the iron cozy bottom from the finished quilt sandwich.

Use a water-soluble marker to make three dots, as indicated in the above photo - one dot ¼" from each of the two bottom corners and one dot ¼" from the point at the top.

MAKING THE TOP
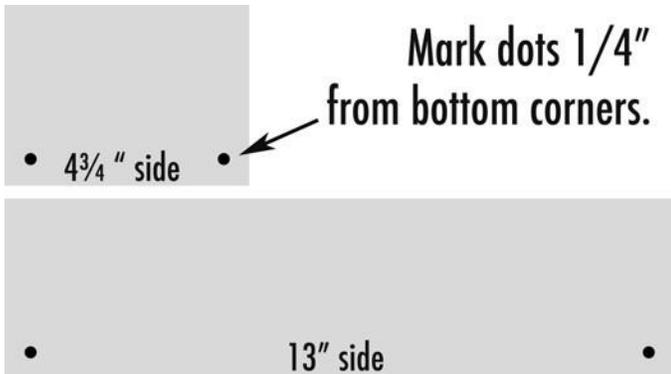
1 0, Use a ruler and water-soluble marker to mark 2 dots on the wrong side of each of the 3 remaining pieces of ironing board fabric.

The dots should be ¼" from each of the bottom corners, as shown in the above illustration.
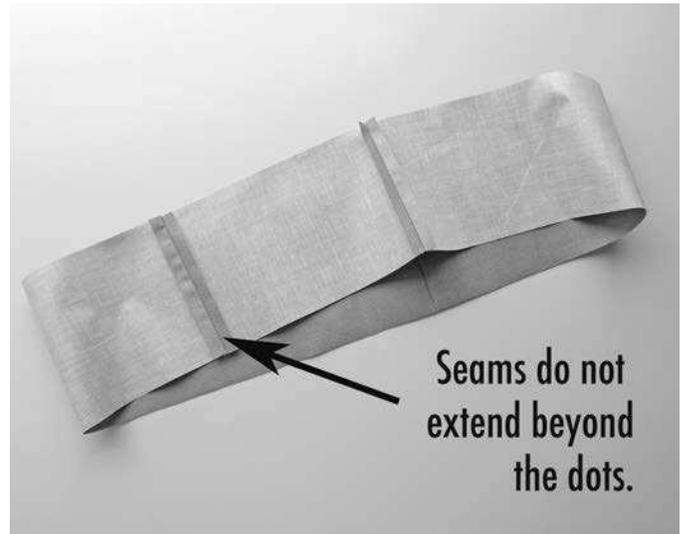
**11 ,** Placing right sides together, use a 1/4" seam allowance to sew one of the 3½" x 13" pieces of ironing board fabric to each side of the 3½" x 4¾" piece, matching the marked dots. As you sew each seam, start at the top and sew up to, but not beyond, each dot, backtacking a couple of stitches when you reach them.

Sew the ends of the 3 ½" x 13" pieces together in the same manner (not sewing past the marked dots) to create a closed loop. Press the seams open.

12, Refer to Steps 10 and 11 to mark dots on and then sew together the 3 pieces of top fabric. The process will be the same as it was for the ironing board fabric, but the pieces of top fabric will be 4½" tall, instead of 3½" tall.


Match open ends of seams at dots.

Do not stitch over open ends.
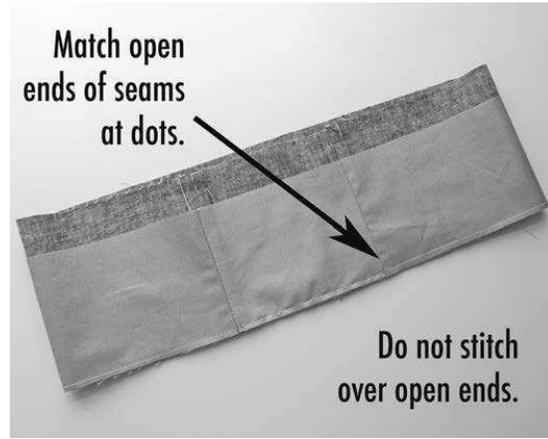
13, Turn the ironing board fabric loop right side out. Place the top fabric loop inside the ironing board fabric loop, keeping the wrong sides together and matching the seams and the marked dots near the bottom edges. The top fabric should be 1" taller than the ironing board fabric.

Sew around the bottom of the loop, through all layers, keeping your stitches close to the edge. As you sew, stop before each seam and then start sewing again on the other side of it. (You don't want to sew the open ends of the seams together.)


14, Fold the top fabric ½" to meet the top of the ironing board fabric and press. Fold the top fabric ½" toward the ironing board fabric again, covering the raw edge of the ironing board fabric and creating a casing for the elastic.

Leave 1/2" opening.
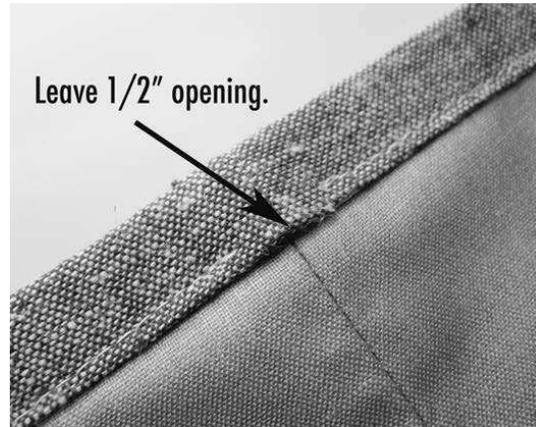
15, Stitch around the bottom of the casing, leaving an approximately ½" opening near the seam between the 13" pieces (what will be the pointed end of the iron cozy).

FINISHING THE IRON COZY

Velcro side
down!
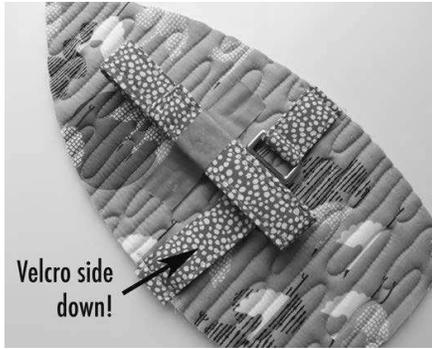
1 2, Use the markings on the pattern piece as a guide to sew the straps to the outside (pretty fabric side) of the quilted bottom. Keep your stitches within ¼" of the edges.

IMPORTANT: Sew the long strap to the quilted bottom with the hook and loop tape side facing down. If you sew the strap with the hook and loop tape side facing up, the finished strap will not function.

Pin or tape the long strap to the center of the quilted bottom to keep it out of the way during the next few steps.

1 3, Pin or clip the short end of the iron cozy top to the flat end of the quilted bottom, matching the marked dots.

Sew between the dots, using a ¼" seam allowance and backtacking a few stitches at each dot.

Note: The marked dots on the iron cozy top are now hidden inside, but it's easy to tell where they are. The marked dots are at the bottom of each of the seams, just *above* the ¼" opening at the bottom of each seam.

1 4, Pin or clip one of the long sides of the iron cozy top to one side of the quilted bottom, matching the marked dots at the pointy end of both pieces.

Sew between the marked dots, using a ¼" seam allowance and backtacking a few stitches at each dot.

Note: If you find that your top isn't fitting your bottom just right, err on the side of lining things up at the short end of the iron cozy and fudging things a bit at the pointy end. Once your cozy is finished, it's unlikely that you'll notice anything wrong!

1 5, Use the same process to sew the second long side of the top to the quilted bottom.

1 6, Finish the raw edges by serging or zigzag stitching around the quilted bottom.
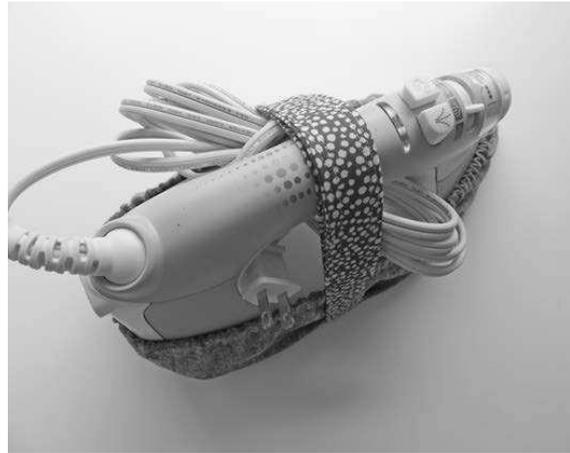

1 7, Unpin or untape the straps and turn the iron cozy right side out.

1 8, Use a small safety pin to thread the elastic through the casing, beginning and ending at the ½" opening.

Fit the cozy on your iron and adjust the elastic until you're happy with the fit. Sew the edges of the elastic together and trim away any excess length.

Sew the ½" opening closed to finish your iron cozy.

1 9, Slip the finished iron cozy onto the bottom of your iron. Wrap up the iron's cord and slip it under the handle.

Bring the long strap over the top of the iron and feed it through the ring on the short strap. Bring the strap back over the top of iron and use the hook and loop tape to secure it in place.

Your iron is ready to go!
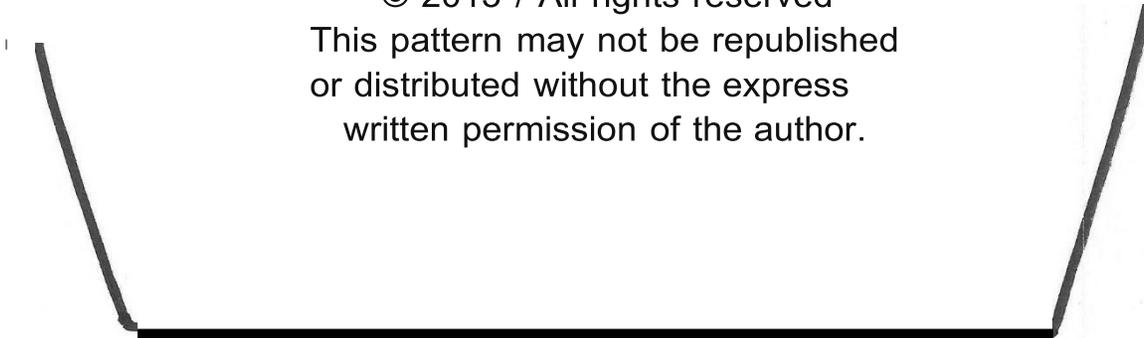
ENJOY YOUR FINISHED IRON COZY!
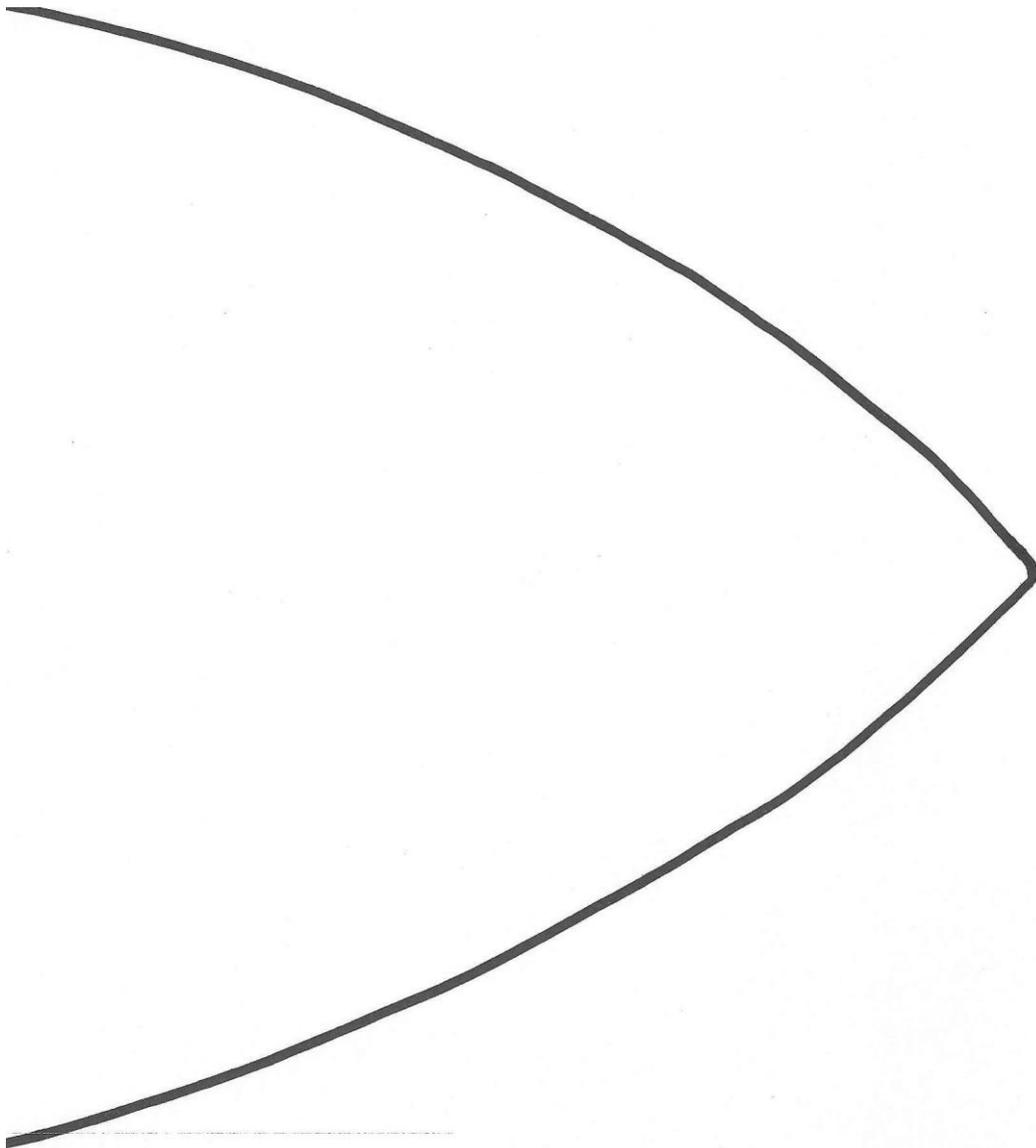
X

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Attach straps here.

Simple Iron Cozy
by Elizabeth Hartman

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