

squishable®



Summer Fun Bikini

Materials list:

10" x 20" of fabric. If you want to use a different fabric for lining of the bikini, you'll need one square of 10" x 10" for the outer fabric, and one 10" x 10" square for the lining.

Spool of matching thread

31" of 1/8" elastic

5" of 1/4" braided elastic

Hand stitching needles or a sewing machine

Scissors

Iron

Pins

1. Preparing the Pattern: The pattern for the bikini bottoms is spread out over two pages. After printing and cutting out the pattern pieces, line up 1A and 1B along the dotted and solid lines. Tape them in place to create the full pattern.

2. Fold your fabric in half (or stack the squares of fabric if using two different kinds) and place the patterns on the folded fabric. You'll need to cut 2 of pattern piece 1 and 4 of pattern piece number two. To cut down on fabric waste, put the triangles for the bikini top on either side of the center of the bikini bottom. Using a pencil, trace the pattern onto the fabric and cut the pattern pieces from the fabric. Mark the tail hole on the bikini bottom but don't cut that out yet.



3. Stack the bikini bottoms together with the right sides of the fabric facing each other. Making sure to keep a 1/2" seam allowance, sew around the edge of the bikini bottom, leaving a 2" edge unfinished so you can turn this inside out.



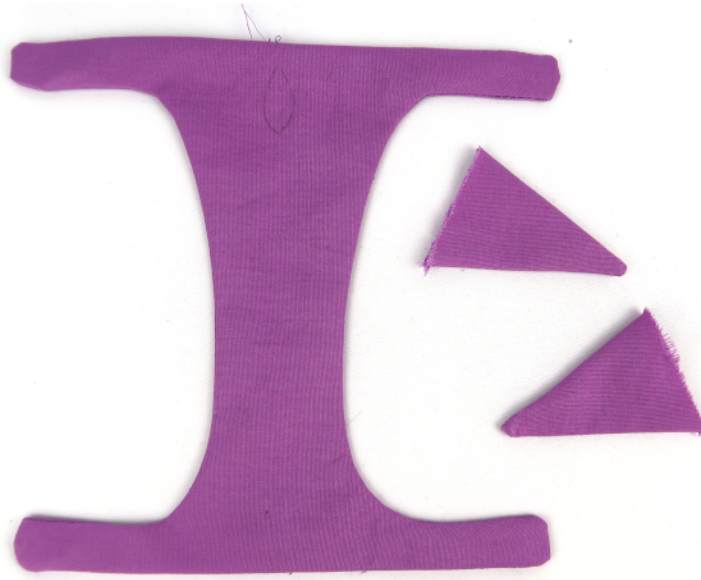
4. With right sides facing each other, stack two sets of two triangles together. Sew the top and bottom edges (keeping a 1/2" seam allowance), but leave the side edges open.



5. Clip off the corners of the bikini bottom and bikini top. Clip the interior curves of bikini bottom.



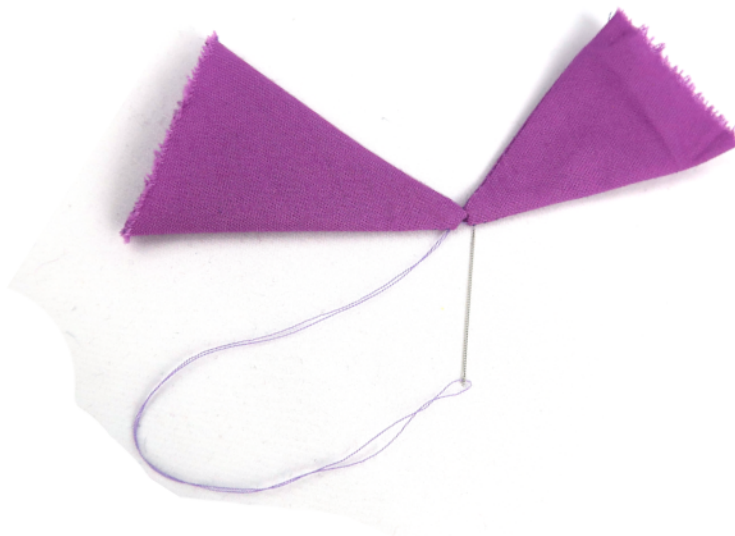
6. Turn the bikini bottom and the two sets of triangles inside out. Press seams with an iron or with your fingers.



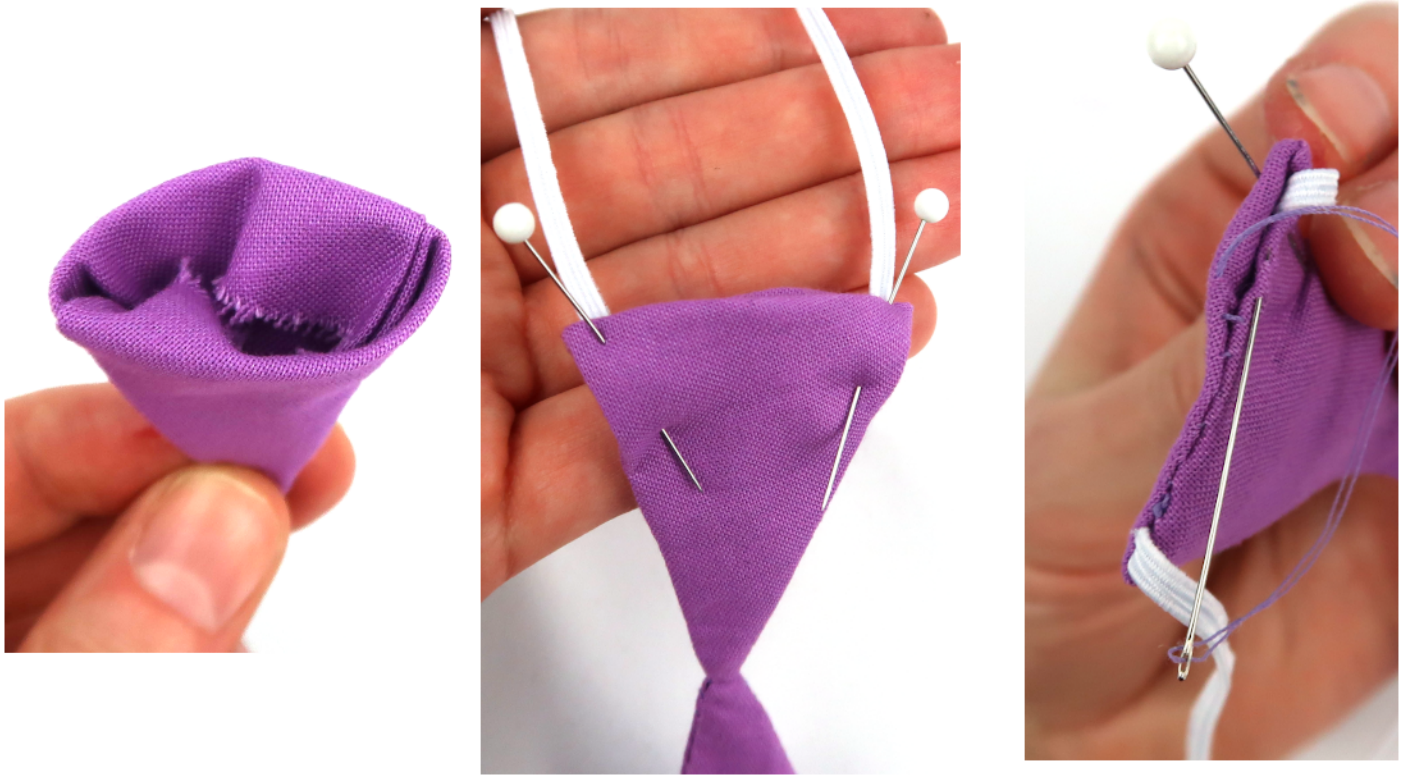
7. Use a ladder stitch to seam up the open side of the bikini bottom.



8. Use a couple short ladder stitches to connect the corners of the two triangles and form the center of the bikini top.



9. Now it's time to attach the elastic and we're going to work on the bikini top first. Fold 1/2" of fabric on the open edge of one of the triangles towards the inside of the bikini top. Cut the length of 1/8" elastic in half and set one length aside. Slide 1/2" of one end of one of the lengths of elastic in the top corner and pin in place. Take the other length of elastic and slide 1/2" of one of the ends of elastic in the bottom corner and pin in place. Ladder stitch the triangle closed, making sure to sew through the elastic to secure in place.



10. Repeat step 9 on the other triangle, making sure to line up the top elastic on one triangle with the top elastic on the second, and the bottom elastic on the first triangle with the bottom elastic on the second triangle. Make sure not to twist the elastic in the process while you're ladder stitching everything in place.



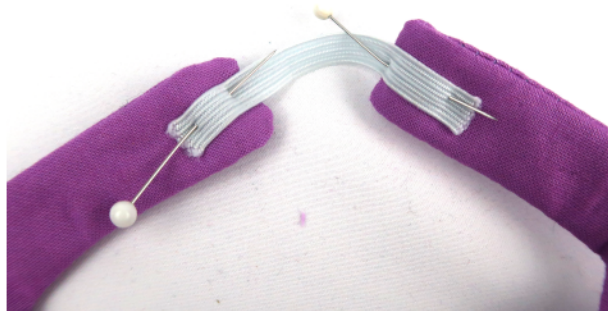
11. Set aside the bikini top and grab the bikini bottoms. Remember the tail hole you marked in the back of the bikini bottoms? This is for the tail of your Undercover Squishable and you need to reinforce the edge so it doesn't fray when you cut it. You can hand embroider stitches around the hole that you've marked, but if you have a sewing machine, you can use a buttonhole stitch or a satin stitch to create full stitches around the hole.



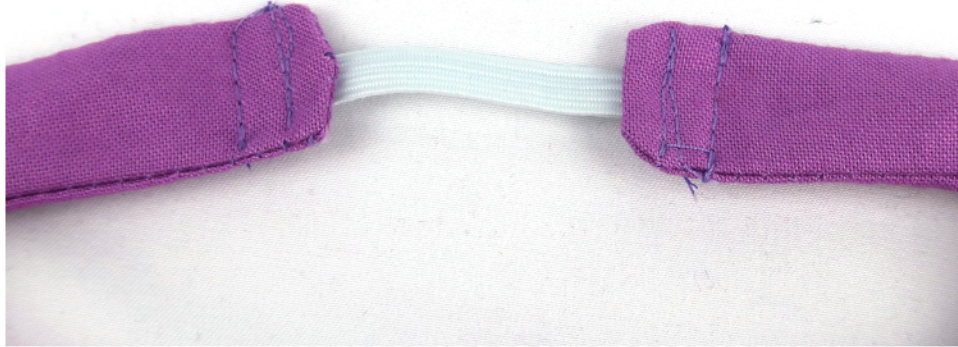
12. Cut out the fabric on the inside of your reinforcing stitches.



13. Now we're going to be connecting the bikini bottoms. Notice that the bikini bottom looks like a capital I. The top bars of the I are going to connect to the bottom bars of the I. Cut the length of 1/4" elastic in half. Place one length of elastic on the inside of right front bar of the bikini bottom so that it overlaps with the fabric about 5/8". Pin the elastic in place. With the other end of this elastic, place it on the inside right back bar of the bikini bottom so that it overlaps with the fabric about 5/8". Pin in place.



14. Repeat step 11 on the left side of the bikini bottom and do a test fit on your undercover Squishable. If it's too tight or too loose, adjust the elastic. If it fits just right, it's time to stitch the elastic in place. Straight stitch across the fabric and elastic 1/8" from the edge of the bikini bottom and 3/8" from the edge of the bikini bottom.



Looking for materials? The following retailers carry sewing supplies:

Michaels
JoAnn Fabrics
Vogue Fabrics



