

Barely are long enough and I'm 5'4" 115lbs

I have added another 2" in length plus changed the pattern so there are 3" at the end for overlap

between the shoulder straps and the ring pieces (this seems to be how the original is designed based

on a video I watched after making mine). I am already wearing mine with the PFAs let out.

Note on sizing: I made this to what I thought was the size of the standard carrier but using it with my skinny 20 month old I have the rings tightened down fairly far and the panel hits high on his back. I haven't had a chance to use it with a newborn but it feels like it would be big. (as you can see these were taken before sewing my sling pieces together)





Supplies:

- 1. 1 yard 7oz SSC suitable fabric
- 2. 65" 5-7oz ring sling suitable fabric
- 3. 1" High density foam
- 4. Closed cell foam such as a yoga matt
- 5. 1" Webbing (14'), your numbers may vary based on how you construct the shoulder straps. I also have added enough to make a chest strap.
- 6. 2" Webbing (5'), your numbers may vary based on how long you need for the waist belt.
- 7. 1" Ladder locks (4)
- 8. 2" side release buckle (1)
- 9. Small sling rings (2 sets for 4 total rings)
- $10.\frac{1}{2}$ " flat sweatshirt drawstring type webbing (2')
- 11.1" braided elastic

Lay out your pattern pieces, I highly recommend laying out all the pieces first. I was able to fit all of the pieces minus the sling piece onto 1 yard of 57" (before any shrinking in the wash) wide linen but there wasn't much extra.

Cut the pieces, if you choose to curve your straps at all make sure to cut mirror images.

Seam allowances are 3/8" unless otherwise stated.

Make sure to heat the ends of all webbing to prevent fraying.

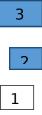








Buckle references:

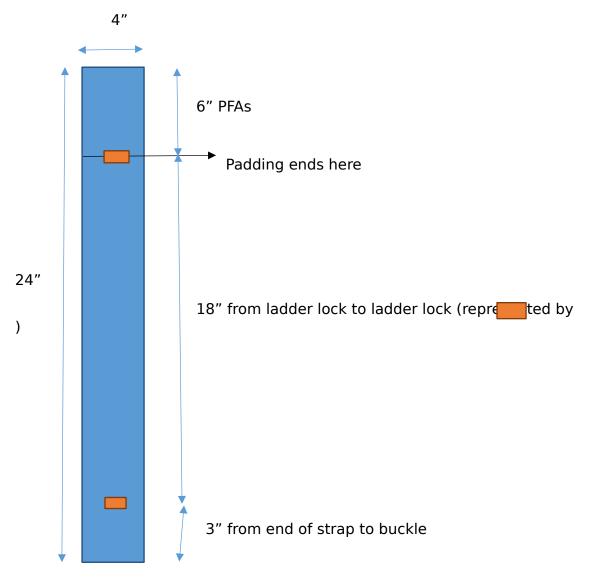


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Shoulder Straps:

I based my shoulder straps largely on my experience with the Sew Toot pattern the Little Pick Me Up and since this is my only other experience with making a SSC I am not really able to explain the details of how to make these without infringing on that pattern. That said there are instructions in the file for an SSC and you could base your shoulder straps on those. Here are the basic measurements I used. Note I have the shoulder strap pattern at 25 for cutting but I find I lose a bit of length between sewing and having it stuffed. You will likely want to add a chest strap to keep the straps from sliding off your shoulders and D rings or something similar for attaching hood straps. Google images is a great resource to look at how carriers are put together.



Waist Connector:

- Pin waist connector pieces together right sides together.
 Sew around outside leaving a small gap on one of the long sides.
 Clip corners and turn right side out. Iron.
 Top stitch around the edge using ¼" seam allowance



Ring Pieces:

- 1. Pin together 2 ring pieces right sides together.
- 2. Sew around outside starting on top straight side and making sure to leave at least a 2" gap on the top straight side.
- 3. Clip curve. Turn right side out. Iron.
- 4. Trace your ring connector piece onto a piece of paper. Mark 1 ½" back from the straight line and ¼" in all the way around. Cut this out and trace onto closed cell foam. Cut 2 pieces of foam, setting one aside for second ring piece.
- 5. Stuff foam into the ring piece.
- 6. Cut 2, 30" pieces of 1" webbing. Set one aside for second ring piece.
- 7. Cut 2, 6" pieces of 2" webbing. Set one aside for second ring piece.
- 8. Insert the 1" webbing into the opening of the ring piece 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " so that at least 1" is on the padding.



- 9. Feel for the webbing and mark a 1" x box at the end of but on the webbing. Sew the x box.
- 10. Take the 2" webbing and put 2 rings on it. Fold in half. Line the ends up with the straight open edge of the ring piece and centered.
- 11.Sew a line of stitching across opening over webbing $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from the edge.
- 12.Sew a line of stitching across ring piece up against but not on the padding.
- 13. Sew a 3rd line of stitching between your first 2 lines.



14. Repeat 1-13 for second set, using the supplies you set aside.

Body:

 Lay finished straps right side down on body inner panel so that each strap overlaps the angled part of the body panel by 2 ½". The strap should be centered on the angled section. Make sure 1" buckle pieces on the straps are in between the straps.



- Mark an x box on the straps about 1" by 2 ½" near the edge of the strap, make sure that there is room between the edge of the x box and the edge of the body panel since this will be turned under later.
- 3. Sew an x box on each strap.



- 4. Stack inner (middle) panel right side up (so straps are facing with webbing up), short outside panel right side up, lining panel (one that will be against baby) right side down.
- 5. Line up edges and pin down. Mark where bottom of short panel begins and 1" above that.



- 6. Sew around edges starting at the bottom. Stop for 1" markings for short body panel as well as shoulder straps.
- 7. If your fabric is prone to fraying you may wish to zigzag stitch around these same areas.
- Turn right side out. Iron seams flat, fold under edges at shoulder straps and pin down. Fold over the unattached portion of the body panels and iron in a 3/8" fold.
- 9. Mark center of sling piece on top right side edge and center of the short body panel on bottom wrong side edge. Pin these pieces together, the sling piece will have more fabric hanging off both ends.
- 10.With a 1" seam allowance sew across short body panel through both sling piece and short body panel.
- 11. Fold the edges down $\frac{1}{2}$ so that raw edges are touching the seam you just sewed. Continue this fold along length of sling piece. Iron this in place.

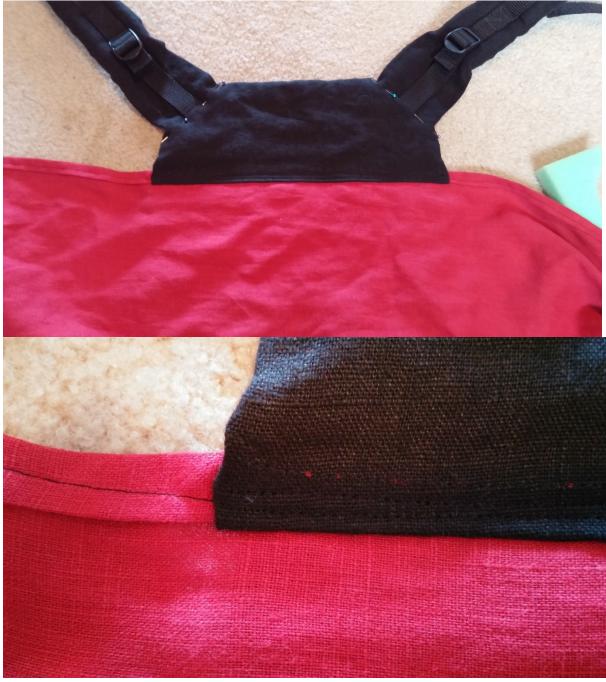


12. Fold down along the seam you sewed toward bottom of carrier. As you do this you will create another fold along the sling piece. Again carry this the length of the sling piece. Iron down. You will now have a ½" hem running the length of the sling with the short body panel folded into this hem. Pin down length of hem and through all body panel pieces.



13. Sew across only the body panel 1/8" below the seam where you joined the sling piece to the short panel. You will be sewing through all layers of the body.

14.Starting at one end of the sling piece sew the hem going straight across the body panels and continuing to the end of the sling piece. On the body panel you should now see 3 rows of stitching.



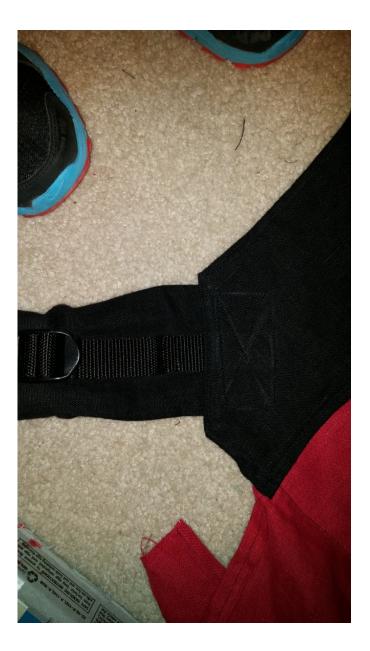
15.Flip over so that the body panel is on top. Pin the body panel to the sling piece. Your sling piece should be about ½" longer than the body panel on the bottom of the carrier. Your body panel pieces should folded under here from your earlier ironing so that the raw edges are not showing.



16.Starting at the bottom edge of the body panel top stitch around the body except for the bottom edge. Use $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



- 17.Fold the bottom edge of the sling piece over $\frac{1}{2}$ " so that the body panels bottom edges are sitting at the fold. Iron this $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold across entire length of sling piece.
- 18. Turn over $\frac{1}{2}$ " once more along the length of the sling piece, including the body panel that was sitting in the bottom of your first fold. Iron and pin in place
- 19. Hem across the entire length of the bottom edge of your sling piece. You will go through the body panels as well.
- 20. Flip carrier back to right side. You will move back to finish the straps.
- 21.Where the straps are inserted into the body feel where the edges are and mark a x box that is within the edges of the straps. Sew the x box.



Waist:

1. Lay the 2 waist pieces right sides together. Pin. Mark center of the waist. Take your waist connector and mark center of the long side. Line up the center marks and mark on your waist piece where the edges of the waist connector end (should be about $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " apart).



- 2" from each of the edges you just marked pin down a 6" piece of flat drawstring webbing (you will use 2 pieces of webbing one on each side). Place the webbing so it is laying between your layers with only ¼" sticking out.
- 3. Cut 5" (or the height of your carrier plus 1") piece of 1" elastic. Pin so that the elastic is 1" from the left edge of the carrier and between the layers so that $\frac{1}{2}$ " is sticking out from each edge, top and bottom.
- 4. Starting at the bottom right corner of the waist sew across the bottom, up the left side, across the top to the first mark you come to for the waist connector. You will sew across the elastic and one piece of the webbing. Resume sewing at your other mark for the waist connector and sew across the top to the top right corner. Stop, you will leave your right side open. You can reverse over the webbing and elastic to help reinforce it.
- 5. Zigzag these same areas if you have fabric that is fraying.
- 6. Turn right side out. Iron (watch out for elastic and webbing) seams. Turn your edges under 3/8" at the waist connector opening and the open edge.
- 7. Trace your waist onto paper to create a template for your closed cell foam. It should end 1" before the edge of each side of the carrier and you should have extra room (at least 1 ½") at the top where the waist connector will go where there is only fabric and no foam. Cut out and trace onto foam and cut. The foam should be slightly smaller (about ¼" all around) than your waist piece so it has room to fit flat.

- 8. Insert the padding into the waist. This will be a bit tricky since your waist opening is not very big. I was able to get my yoga mat to go in though.
- 9. Cut 8" piece of 2" webbing. Mark a 2" x box on one end.
- 10.Insert female side of the 2" buckle and fold webbing over so webbing ends line up. (your x box should be on top, make sure your buckle is right side up)
- 11.Place end of buckle at the edge of the padding on the left side (the one with the safety elastic). Position webbing so there is no slack.
- 12.Sew x box in place
- 13.Sew a bar tack about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from your x box between the x box and the buckle
- 14.Cut ?" of 2" webbing.
- 15.On right hand side where you have the open end, insert the webbing into waist so that at least 2" are onto the foam (should be about 3" inserted total).
- 16.Feel the edges of the webbing under the waist and mark a 2" x box that is over the webbing near the far end of the webbing.
- 17.Sew the x box.
- 18.Sew the right hand open edge closed $\frac{1}{4}$ " in.
- 19.Sew a second line of stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the first.



20. Thread the webbing through the male side of your 2" buckle. Up through 2 down through 1.



21. Fold webbing over $\frac{1}{4}$ " and then $\frac{1}{4}$ " again and sew across. (you can also use a 8" piece of 1" elastic folded into your webbing like we did with the sternum strap)





Assembling:

1. Mark center of body panel at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " down from top of the panel and mark a straight line across at the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mark.



- 2. Pin body connector so center lines are lined up and the top edge of the connector is on the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mark of the body panel.
- 3. Mark a $1^{"}x5^{"}x$ box on the body connector at the top edge. Sew the x box.



4. Pin the bottom edge of the body panel up so that it is out of your way and the waist connector is hanging off your bottom edge.



5. Cut 8" piece of 1" webbing. Pin this to the body connector so one end is lined up with the bottom edge of the connector.



- 6. Sew across the webbing with ¼" seam allowance.
 7. Insert waist connector into the waist. Pin in place making sure to line up your edges on the front and back.

- 8. Sew across the waist opening $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge.
- 9. Sew across the waist right up against but not on your padding.
- 10.Sew a 3rd line of stitching between these 2 lines.



11. Lay the body flat and position the waistband so it is laying straight and even on the body panel. Pin 6" piece of the sweatshirt drawstring webbing so that 1/2" is free above and it is lined up with the top edge of the body panel where the drawstring is coming out of the waist. Repeat for the other side.



12.Sew a small x box over this webbing in the $\frac{1}{2}$ " you left above.





- 13.Iron $\frac{1}{2}$ " fold on each short end of the sling piece. One side should be folded up and one side down.
- 14. Thread the sling piece through rings so that the rings are facing up with the right side of the carrier. Thread up through middle of both rings, over first ring and under the second. (Like threading a ring sling). Do this for both sides.



- 15. Put edges of sling piece together and position so that raw edges sit inside the folds you have ironed in. Pin together.
- 16.Sew a line of stitching 1/8" from each fold so that you have 2 lines of stitching.
- 17. Take the end of your 1" webbing that is coming off of the ring piece and insert it into the ladder lock on the shoulder strap on the same side of the carrier. Go up through 2 over the bar and down through 1.
- 18. Take a 4" piece of 1" elastic and fold it into the end of your webbing as we did with the sternum adjuster and sew an x box.
- 19. Repeat steps 17 & 18 for other side.

Finishing touches:

- 1. On the piece of 1" webbing that is sticking out of your waistband install snaps. One will be near the carrier and one at the end of the webbing. Make sure you install them so that when you fold the webbing onto itself they can snap.
- 2. Cut 2, 6" pieces of 1" webbing. Position just below the top edge of the body panel (so the webbing isn't sticking over the top where it might be scratchy), about 1" in from the edge of each shoulder strap.
- 3. Put a snap through the carrier body and the webbing about $\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the top of the webbing. The prong will go from back to front, use a male side.
- 4. $\frac{1}{2}$ " below that snap insert another snap this one going only through the webbing. Again go back to front but this time use a female snap.
- 5. At the free end of the webbing 1/4" from the end insert a 3rd snap back to front. This one will be male. You should now be able to fold the webbing up and snap the end onto the lower of the top 2 snaps.
- 6. When you make a hood use female snaps along the bottom edge and line them up with the free make snaps on your webbing.
- 7. If you used D rings on your shoulders for your hood tie downs position them on the strap where you want them and sew a line of stitching on either side of the ring.