MAKING A CHAIN STRAP WITH A VINYL/LEATHER/CORK PORTION

HARDWARE AND TOOLS NEEDED:

(2) 3/4" D-rings
(1) 26" or 44" pre-made chain strap
(2) small rivets (optional)
Chain nose pliers
3/8" Double-Sided Tape (DST)
(2) 3/8" jump rings (optional)



MATERIAL NEEDED:

(1) piece of vinyl, leather, or cork cut to desired length x 2 + 2" and $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " wide

For example: If you want your vinyl/leather/cork portion to be 19" long when finished, you will need 38" + 2" totaling 40". The 2 added inches are to account for the diagonal seam that will be sewn to connect the ends. Cut your piece at 40" x 1 1/2". You may want to wait until you've separated your chain links to figure out how much of the material you need to make your desired length.

PREPARE THE CHAIN:

Decide what length you want the finished strap to be and how long you want the center vinyl, leather, or cork portion to be. Below are instructions for the chain depending on the starting length.

- If you are using the 26" chain: Find the center and use the chain nose pliers to carefully pry open the link to separate the 2 ends. Close the link after to make sure it stays on until later.
- If you are using the 44" chain: Decide the amount needed to be removed to add the vinyl, leather, or cork portion. If you want a longer strap you may be able to jsplit it in the center like the 26" one. Otherwise, make sure it's even on both ends and then pry open the links and remove the links from the center of the chain. I keep the chain for another time.





1. Lay the vinyl piece WS up and mark a line down the center lengthwise.



2. Slide the D-rings on the vinyl piece and move toward the center.



3. Place the ends RST, perpendicular and clip in place. Make sure the piece isn't twisted. Draw a diagonal stitch line as shown and then stitch along the line.



4. Open the seam and stitch along each side of the seam with a 1/8" SA. Trim seam to 1/4".





5. Place DST on the center line all around the entire piece. Move the D-rings out of the way as you go.



6. Remove the DST backing and fold the edges to the center line, all the way around, pressing well, again moving the D-rings out of the way as you go around.



7. Move the D-rings around so they are on the opposite ends of the piece. The diagonal seam should be in the center and the side of the vinyl piece with the center seam should be together.



8. Clip in place and topstitch with a 1/8" SA.



9. Add a rivet if desired.



10. With the pliers, open the links on the ends of the chain and place one on each of the D-rings and pinch it closed. *Note: If the D-ring is too thick for the chain to attach to, you may need a jump ring to add to the link. (Not shown.)*



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