

Cut your pattern pieces according to the diagrams.

Iron the interfacing to both sides of the main fabric.

Fold the insert fabric into thirds (see diagram), and iron flat. Pin the folded fabric in place on one of the pieces of main fabric, and stitch down each side to hold in place.

Place both sides of main fabric right sides together, sew down both long edges and to a point at the bottom (see diagram) leaving the top open.

Trim corners, turn right side out and iron flat.

Turn the top 1cm of the open end inwards, iron flat and sew closed.

Wrap the top edge around your stick or piece of dowel and pin.

Remove the stick and sew a straight seam.

Cut the ribbon into 25 x 31cm lengths and pin them at even distances down the length of the banner. Sew a long straight line of stitching down from the top of the banner to the bottom, catching each ribbon in the line of stitching as you go. You can reinforce this stitching by going back over this line if you like.

Thread the stick back through the sleeve at the top and tie the remaining length of ribbon on either side to hang the banner.

Tie sweets, notes or small toys to each ribbon and undo one each day starting on the 1st of December to the lead up to Christmas. Sweets with a twisted wrapper are easiest to hold in place – try to avoid anything that is heavy or has a smooth shape as they will slip out easily.