

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tacticalsewing/posts/2449535501919887/>

People often ask me how do i build those backpanels to my packs, that have padding covered with spacer mesh and an airchannel in the middle. It's actually not that difficult. There are a lot of backpanel styles/techniques that i use, and this is just one of them.

Here's a quick tutorial. I also took a video demonstrating one of the phases; i'll post it into the comments.

1. (Pic #1) There are three main components; 1. Whatever fabric you choose to use as the base of the backpanel (i'm going to call it "base" in this tutorial) 2. Closed cell foam padding, cut into desired shape and size 3. Spacer mesh.

About sizing the padding; i recommend leaving at least 2cm allowance between the edge of the fabric and the closed cell foam, otherwise sewing the gusset into the backpanel could be tricky. I normally use 10mm closed cell foam for this application.

2. (Pic 2, 3, 4) Draw support lines into the base. Place the spacer mesh right side down on top of the base and align it with the support line. Sew it down.

3. (Pic 5) Both pieces of spacer mesh are now sewn into the base

Then we start attaching the spacer mesh into the padding. We do it one side at the time. For this, use strong spray on adhesive. I use Palty's heavy duty adhesive, which is perfect; it doesn't come out in a liquid form, it's kind of like fiber, so it doesn't soak through the spacer mesh. And if you are wondering if it shows through the mesh; no it doesn't.

4. (Pic 6,7) Apply spray on adhesive to the spacer mesh and visible part of the base of the other side (protect the side you are not gluing). Also apply glue to the underside if the padding.

5. (No pic) Place the padding in its place

6. (No pic) Apply glue to the top of the padding (you can also try to get some glue to the sides of the padding)

7. (Pic 8, 9) Turn the spacer mesh over the padding. Take it slow, and use a ruler or similar to press the spacer mesh as close to the edge of the padding as possible. When doing this, try to stretch the mesh as little as possible. If it stretches, it might shrink the base a bit. After that, cut off the excesses mesh. See also the video in the comments.

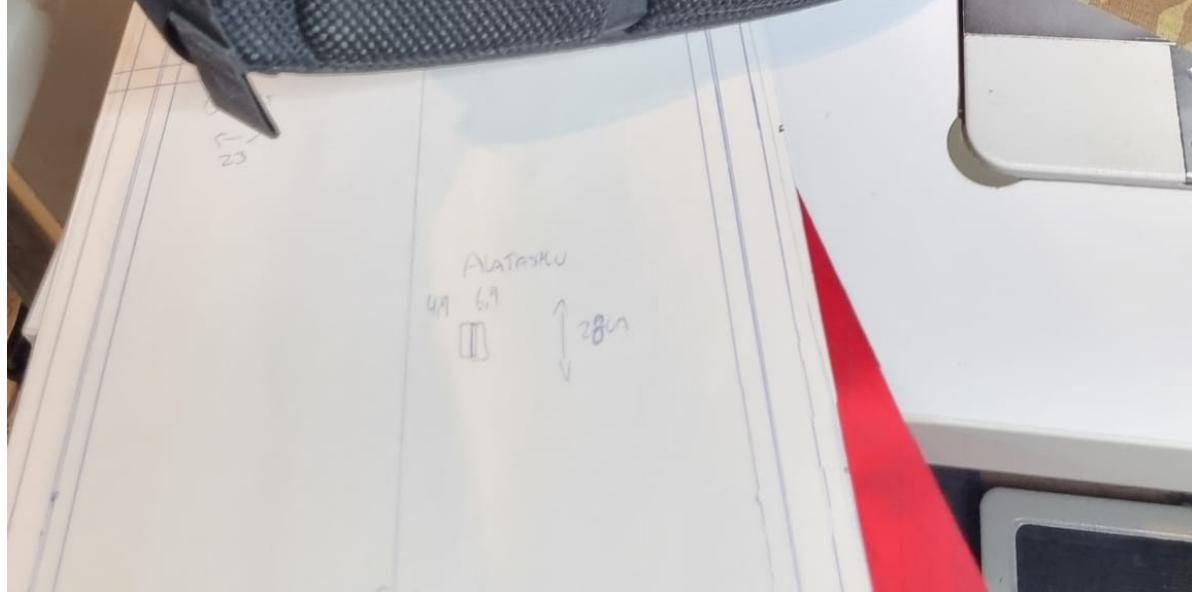
8. Repeat for the other side

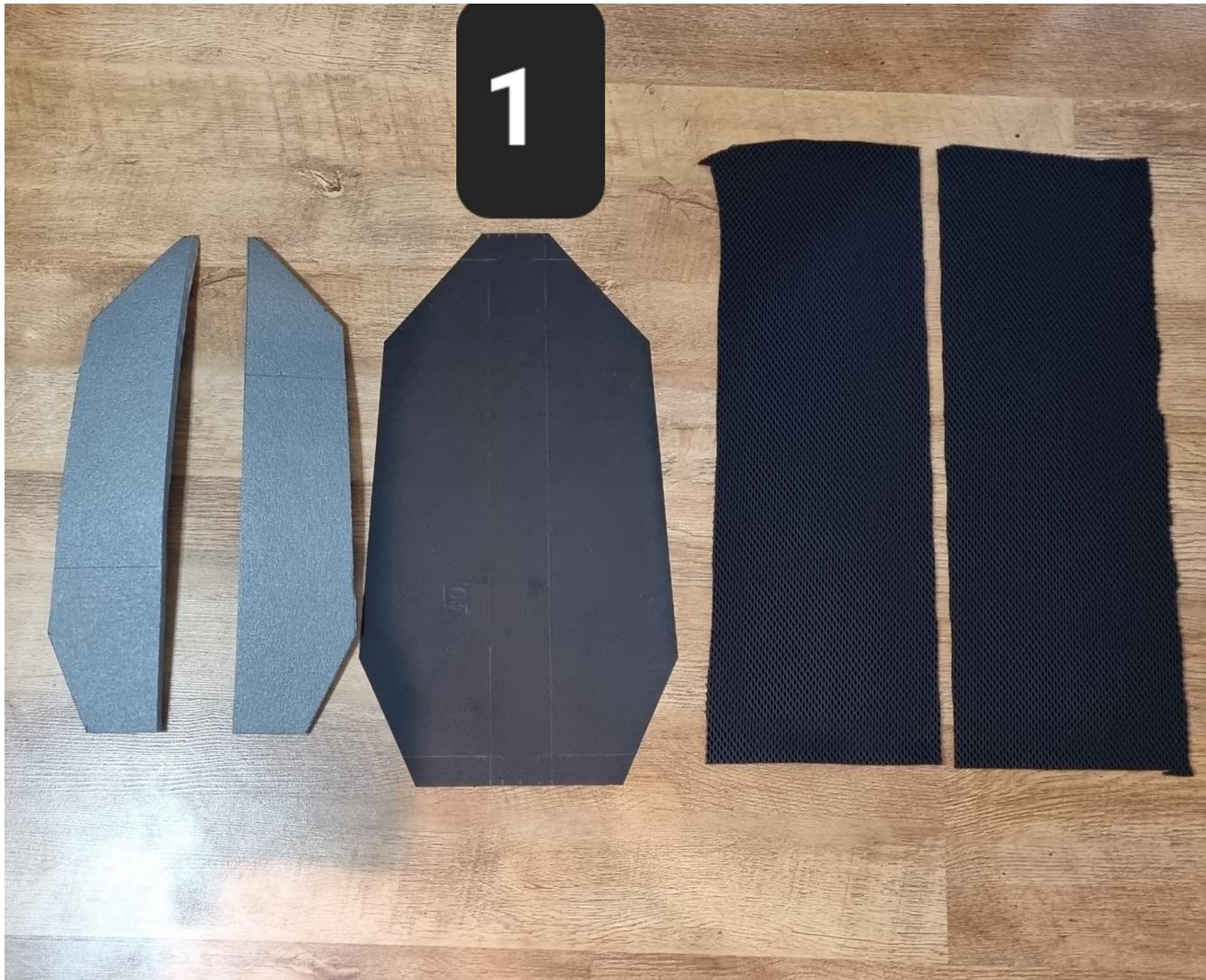
9. (Pic 10) After the glue has dried (the Palty i use dries pretty quickly for touch and for sewing, in about 10 minutes) sew stitch lines around the perimeter of the padding. Try to get as close as the edge of the padding you can. For this, i use a zipper foot.

10. (Pic 10) You're done (well obviously the backpanel in the picture still needs work, but the part what this tutorial is about, is finished)

I hope this helps someone. Like i said, it's not that difficult. And although the process has a lot of phases, it's fairly quick to do. This takes me like 15min from start to finish (excluding the time waiting for the adhesive to dry). If i have a template ready for the padding pieces, i can do it even faster.

I suppose this can also be done without using adhesive, but i reckon that would be a lot more difficult.





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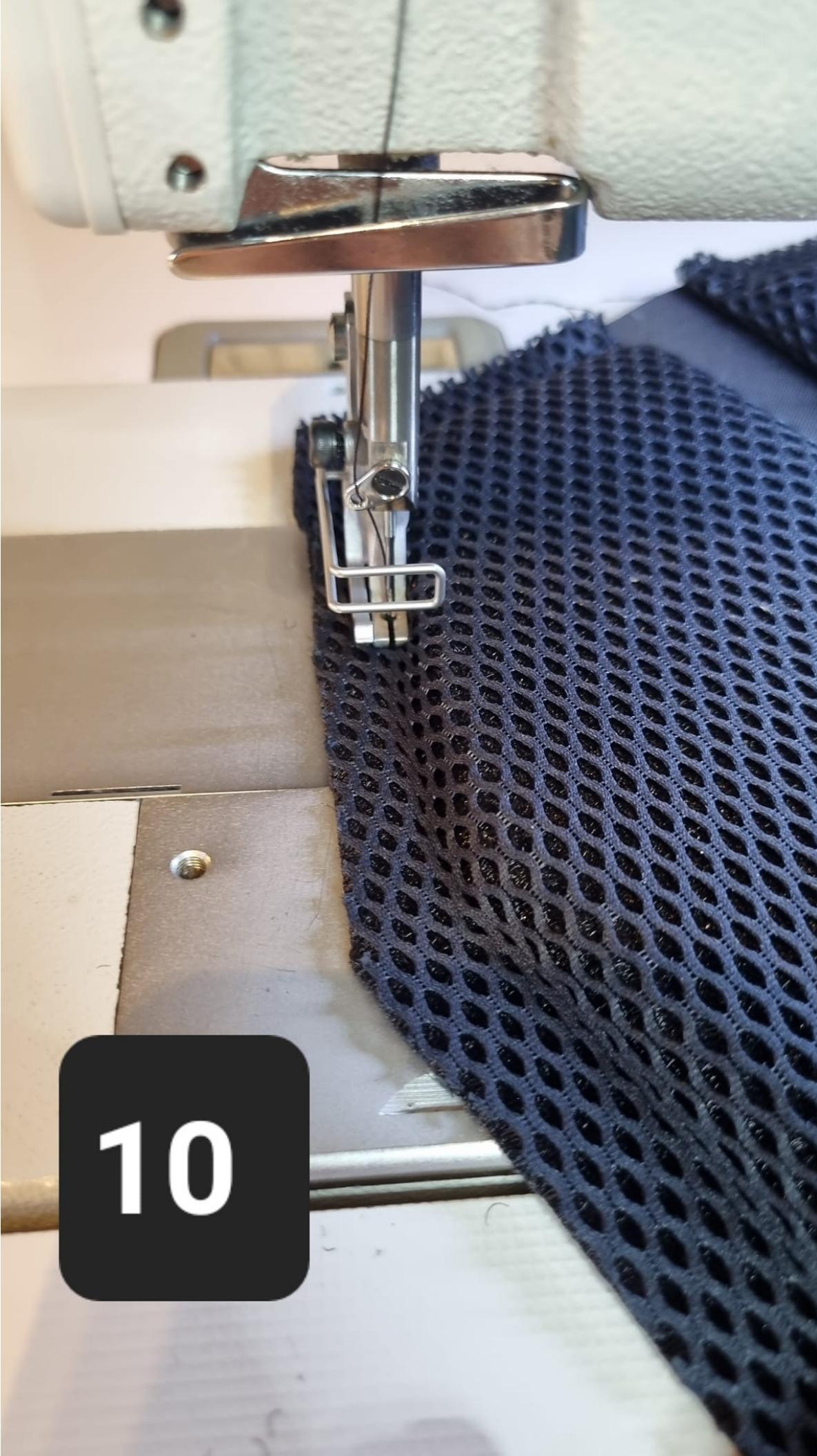


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Done.

