

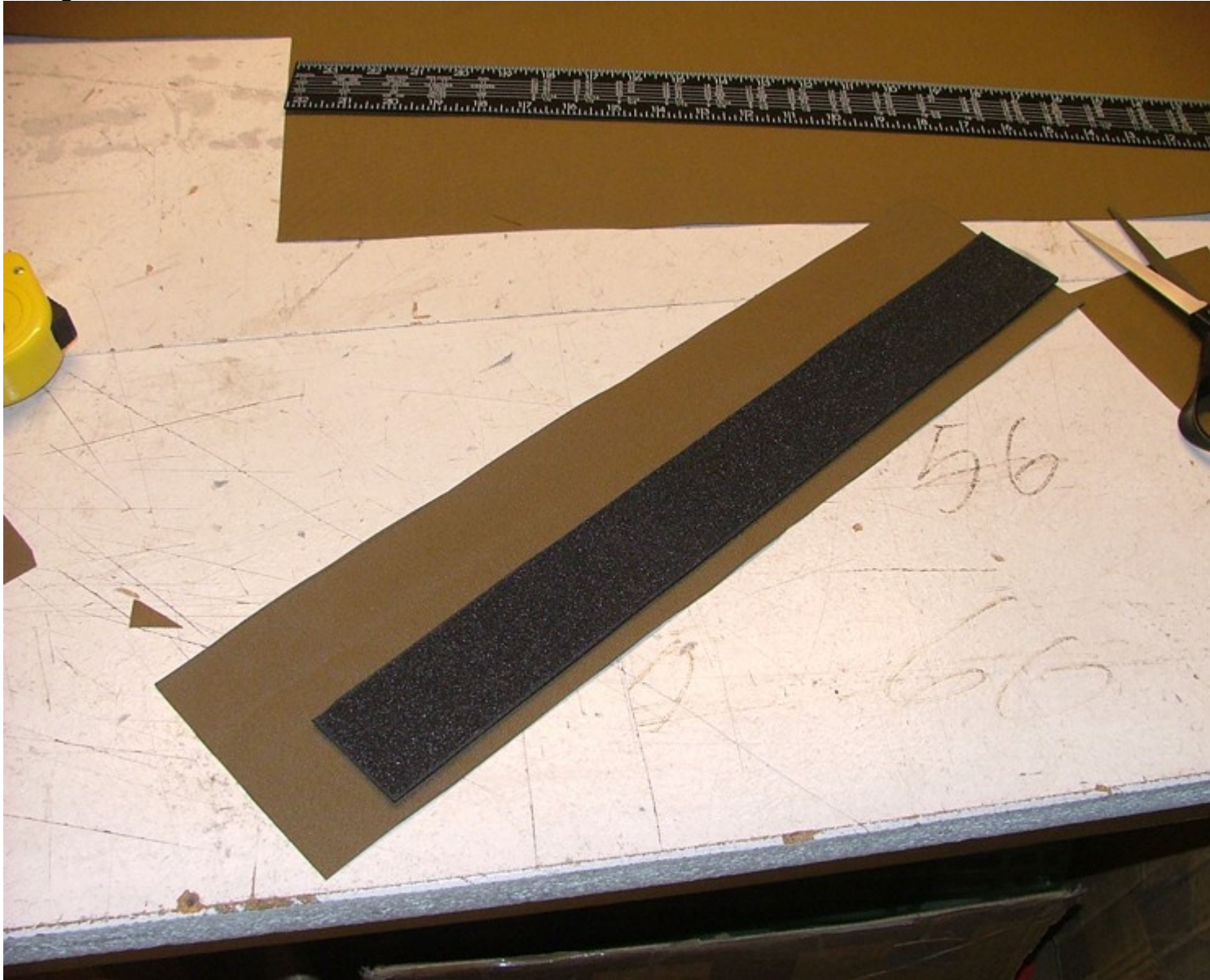
How To: Quick and easy padded straps

« **on:** January 07, 2011, 11:39:54 AM »

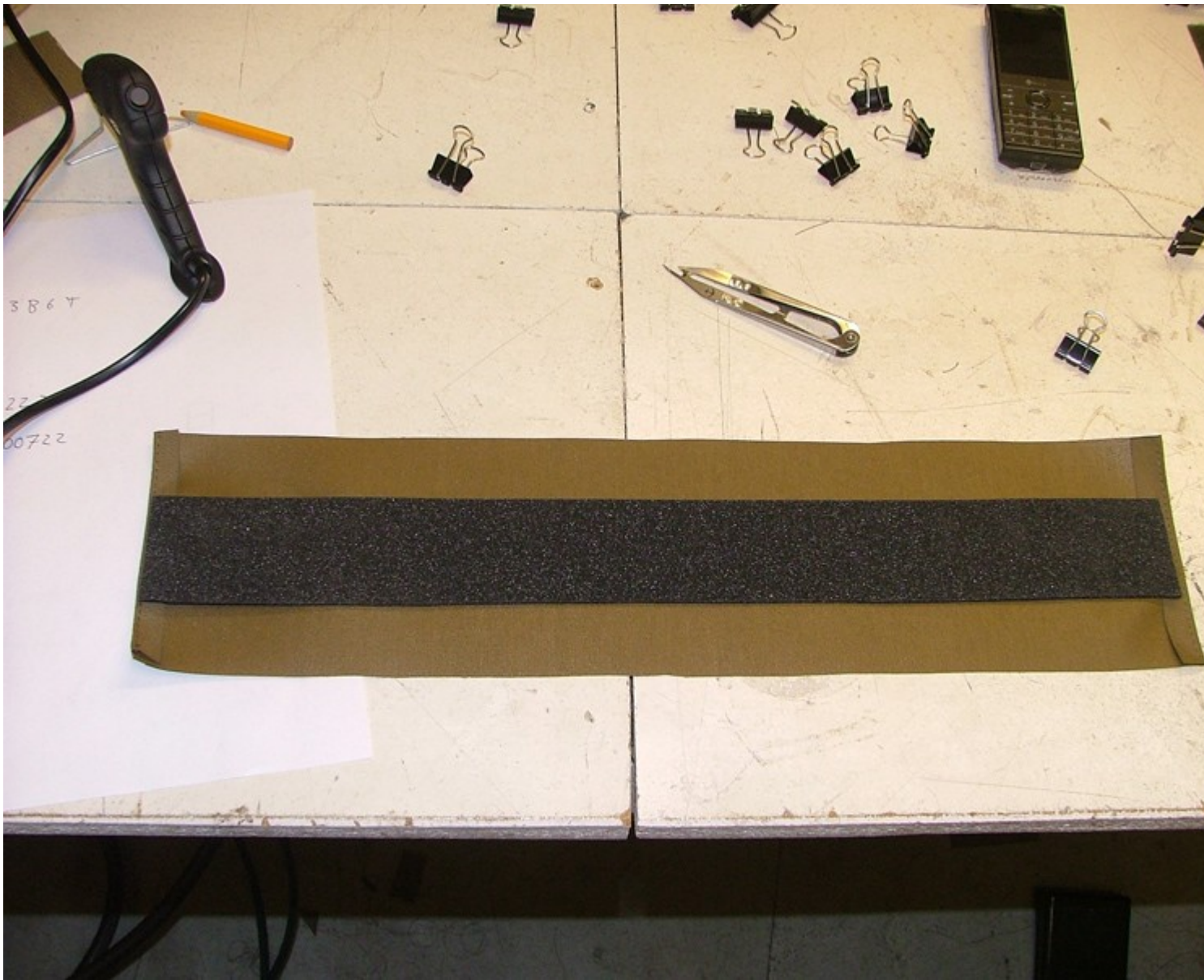
Since I learn so much here, it's time to share

This is a pretty basic technique for padded straps, it's quick and you don't need that much material. As a bonus, you don't have to worry about stuffing the foam into your channel (I messed up too much foam with Ganys tutorial, since I use real thin padding).

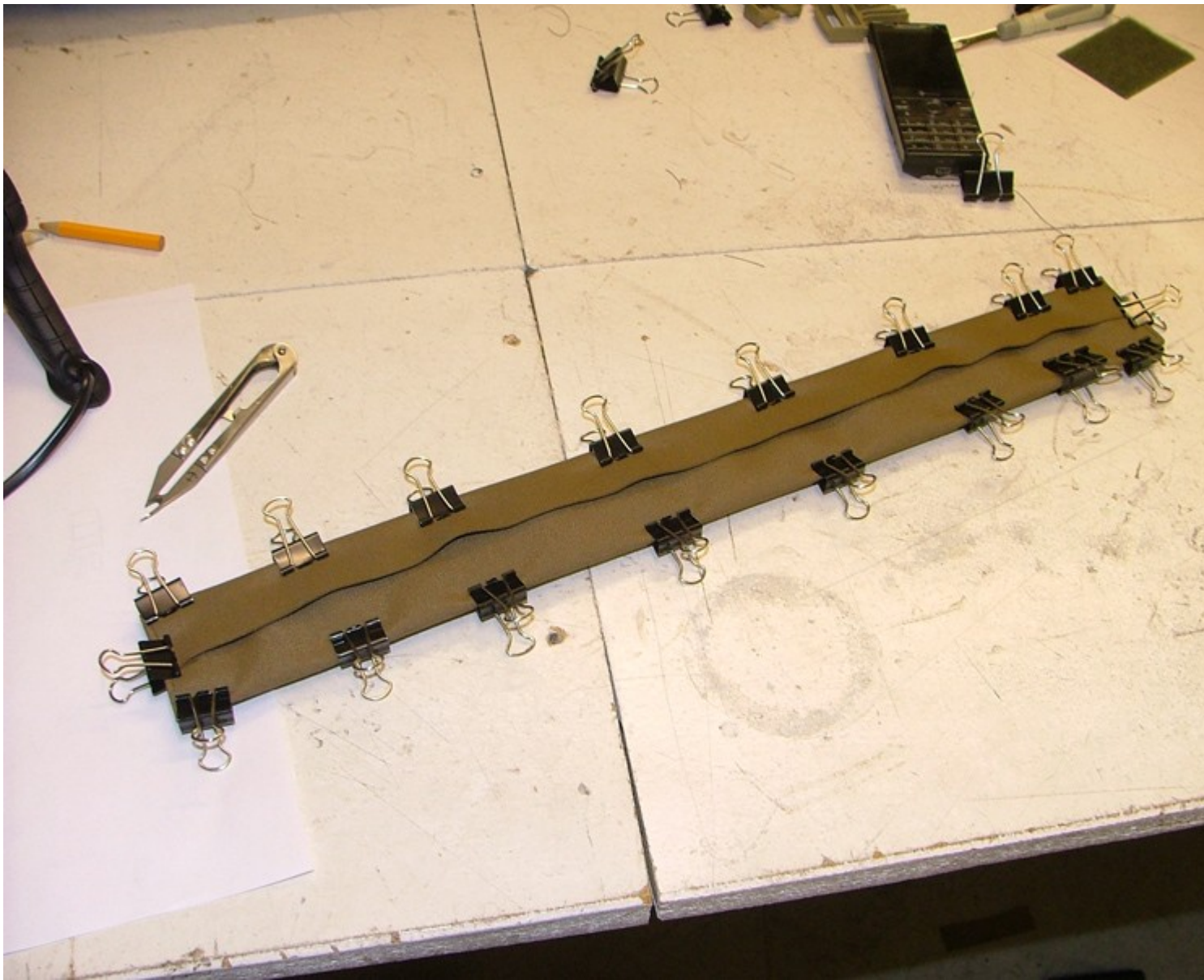
Here goes:



This is the material I start with, you also need some webbing to cover up the raw Cordura that this technique leaves. In the picture, the foam is 2"x17,5" and the Cordura is 4.3"x19", but you are supposed to use the measurements that YOU need.



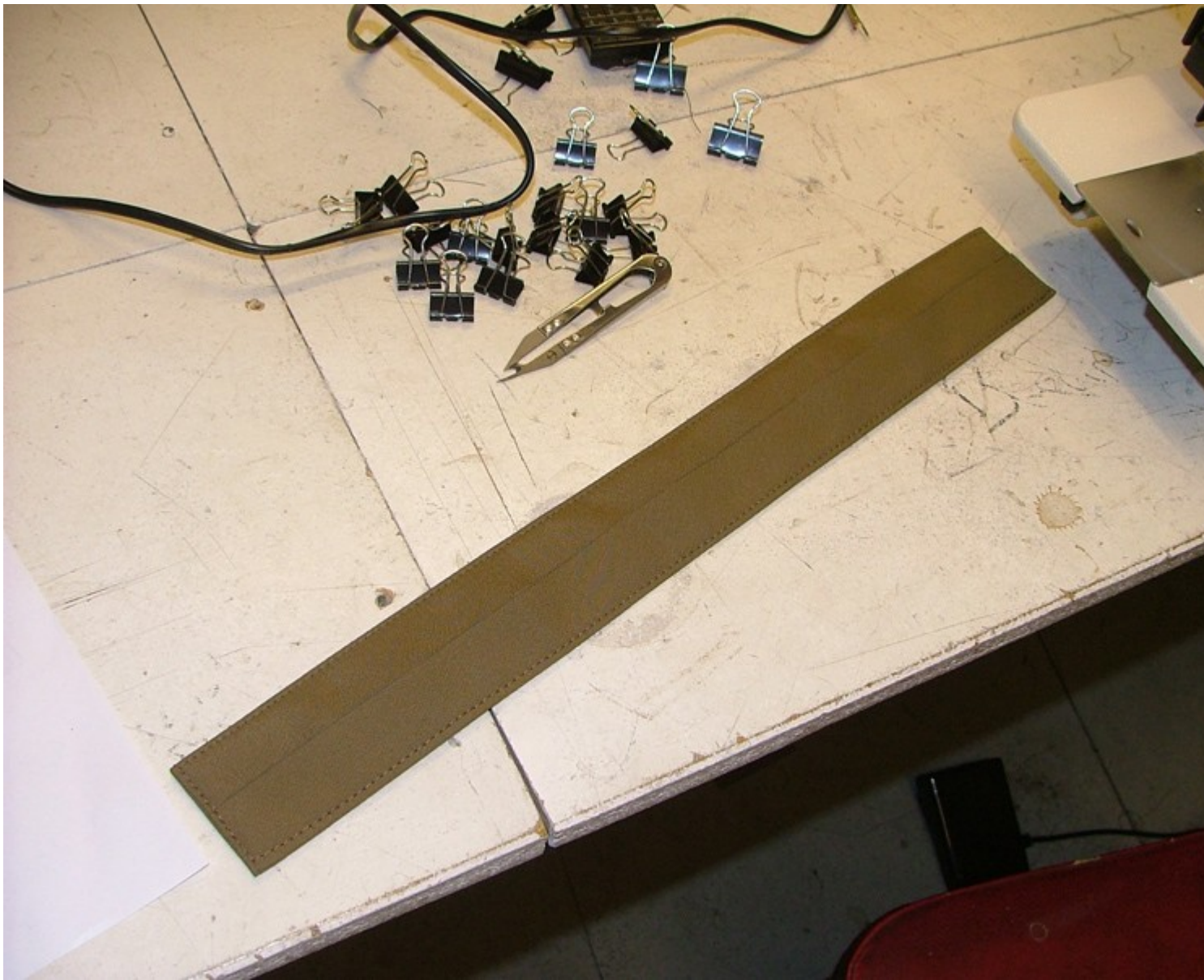
I start off by hemming the edges, about 1/2" (I like that the cordura extends just a bit over the foam).



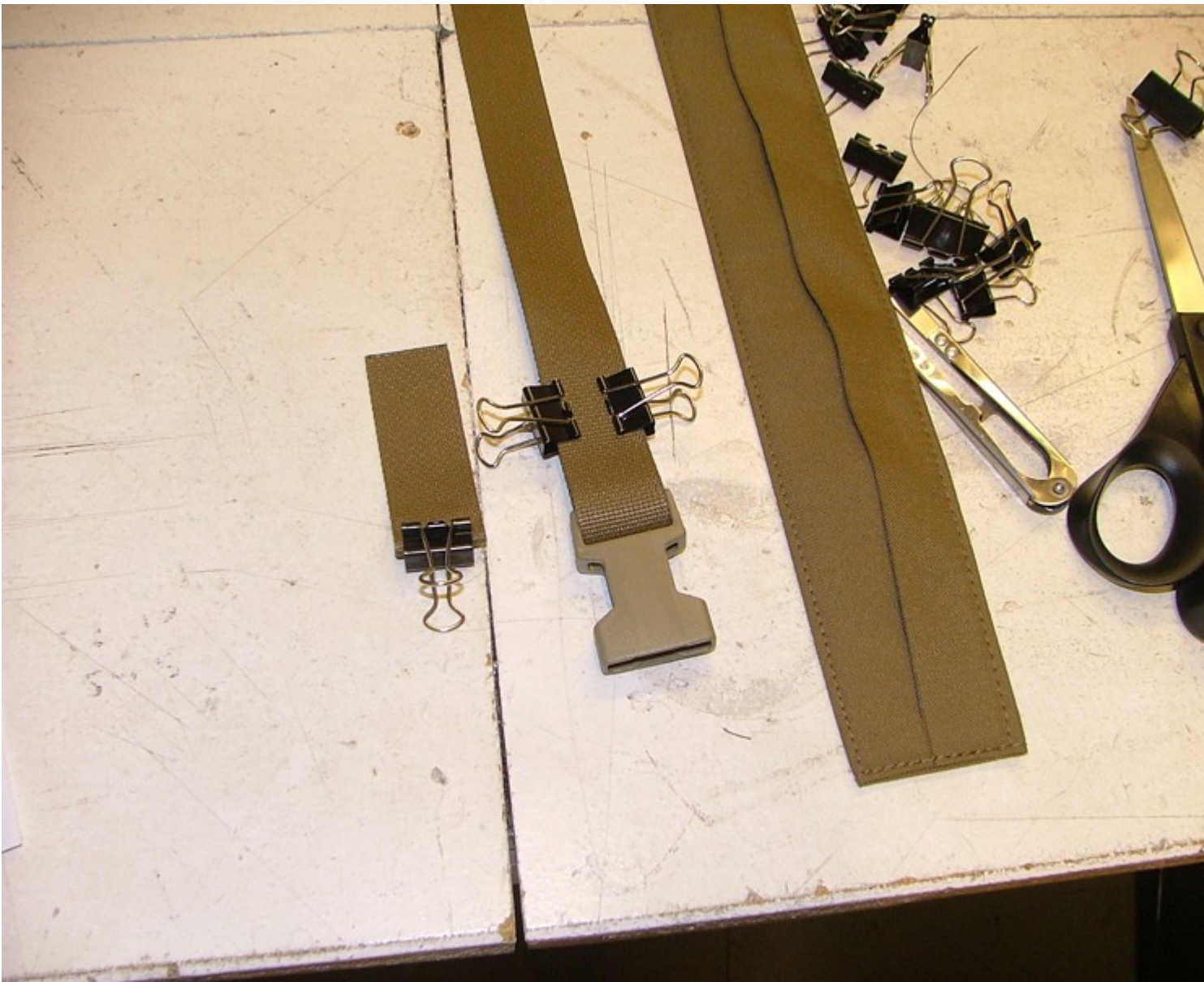
Then I wrap the cordura around the foam, holding it in place with "Diz clips" (head down to your local office supply\bookshop and they'll have tons for cheap, and you should have more than you ever need) Keep it as centered as possible!



Then sew all around, remember to remove the clips as you go, so that they don't hold back on the material giving you ugly stitches.



This is what mine looked like when I sewed all around. If yours is similar then you're doing ok! You probably understand what side is which side by now..



Time to cover up the ugly raw cordura.

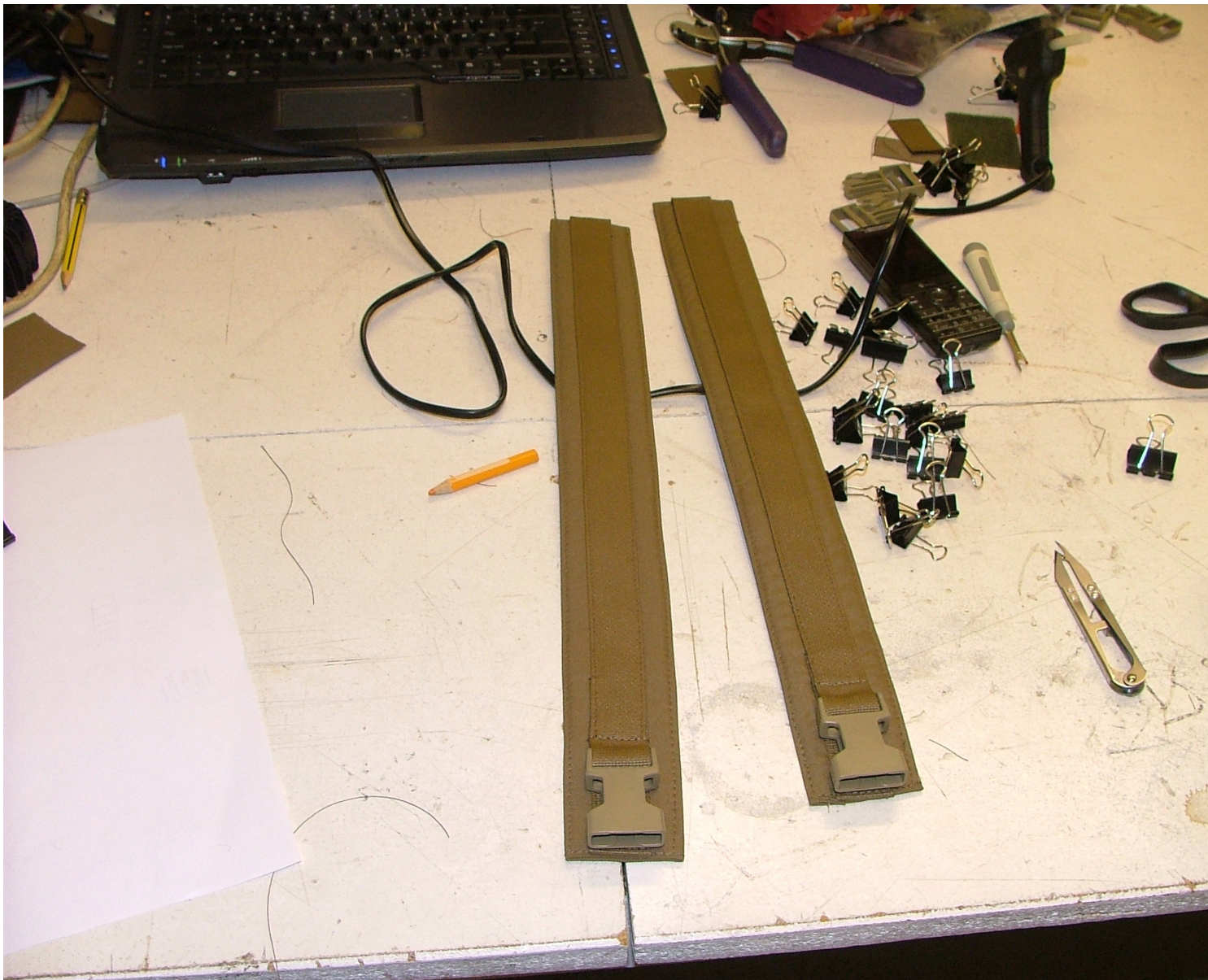


I started out with a small piece first, folded on the bottom. Sew it down. Don't measure by eye





Then I sew the long piece of webbing with the SRB. The stitches go into 3 layers of webbing, 2 cordura layers and whatever foam you have. I just do a triple stitch, then remove it before I sew the rest. I do this because my foot hates SRBs, so I'd rather do them when coming down the length of the webbing, and reverse instead of trying to do the corner. Sew down the rest of the webbing, remember to fold the raw webbing on the opposite end!



Here is my "finished" product. I joined them together with a piece of 2" webbing, to create an H-harness. (here you can see it, it's not the best photo but you'll understand)

Also, I'd image that you can build flaps (pouch "spines") and such with this technique, giving you only 2 layers of Cordura instead of 4 (if you use the inside out or pre-fold them). But you have to cover the Cordura with webbing. Still, it's 2 less layers for your machine to sew. I haven't tried it yet, but I'll do soon.

Hopefully you learned something, if not you just wasted a few minutes..