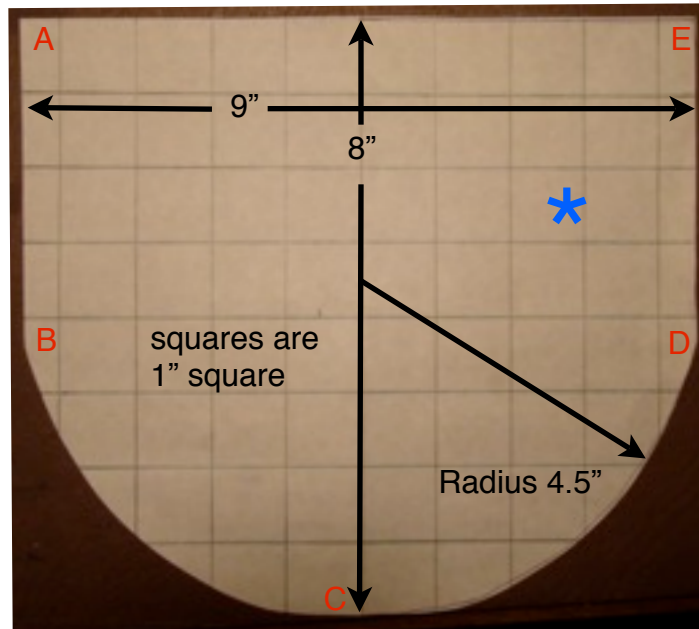


# Old Style Sporrans



## Front and Back

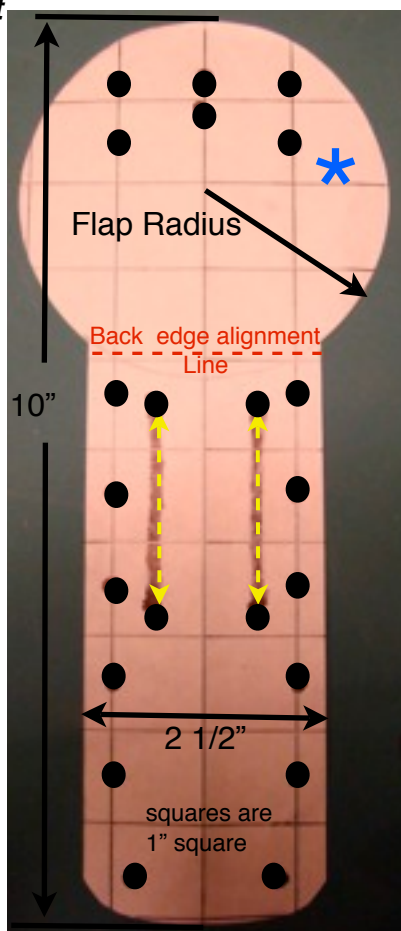
Cut two



Patterns are not to scale but all the info you need is there!

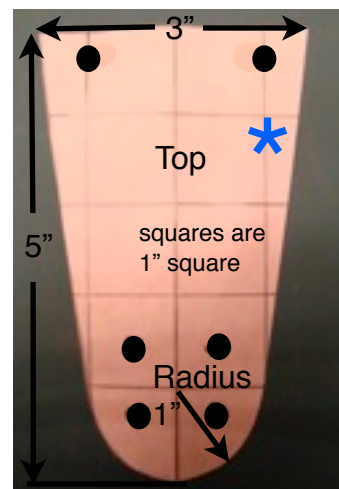
## Flap/Back Reinforcement

Cut one



## Front Reinforcement

Cut one



**Gusset** (no pattern): cut one out of the same material as used for the *Front* and *Back*. This piece is 2.5" wide and longer than needed to go around sides and bottom between the front and back, i.e. 21" or more. Better to be too long than short, excess is cut off later. If you can't find a piece 21" long make it up out of two or more shorter pieces.

# Instructions for Old Style Sporrans

## Materials

If you go online and look for sporrans you will find there are many different styles made of leather or fur. For our purposes we could also use fabric. Any heavy fabric of plain color will work. You could also use fleece or fake furs. Some fabrics may need to be interfaced. If you are intent on using leather or real fur, thrift shops are the way to go. These stores often sell leather coats or suits that can be dismantled for the leather. Don't forget to look in the women's and children's sections also. Doing it this way is very inexpensive compared to purchasing new leather. Make your pattern pieces out of paper or poster board and take them with you to the thrift store. Hold them on the garment to make sure you will have enough material. For instance the sleeve on a small leather coat contains a large amount of square inches once the seams are opened and and it is laid out flat. For some of the heavier leather, old boots that are worn out may supply enough material.

For lacing you can use leather strips, shoe laces, cord or thin rope.

*Optional: some sort of large button*

The *Front*, *Back* and *Gusset* are made out of lightweight soft leather. The *Flap/Back Reinforcement* and *Front Reinforcement* parts are made out of heavier, stiffer leather. If you are going to use fabric instead of leather, you can use stiff interfacing or even cardboard for reinforcement. Note: Thin leather sews easily on a sewing machine. The thicker leather, depending on thickness, may be very difficult or impossible to sew on a regular machine.

## Instructions

**Step 1.** Cut out *Flap/Back Reinforcement* and *Front* reinforcement out of heavy leather. If your heavy leather is "ugly" you can glue or sew on some nice leather over the disk shaped flap on the outside face. The reinforcement parts will not be seen on the finished sporran.

**Step 2.** Punch holes of appropriate size(try different sizes on a piece of scrap) for your lacing where the black dots are on the pattern. Also, punch holes at the ends of the yellow dotted arrows and cut along the yellow arrow between the holes vertically. These slits form the belt loop.

**Step 3.** Glue or sew the *Front Reinforcement* piece to the center of the inside of the *Front*,aligning top edges. Matching holes in Reinforcement, punch holes through Front.

**Step 4.** Glue or sew the *Flap/Back Reinforcement* piece to the center top of the outside of the *Back*, aligning the top edge of the *Back* with the red dotted line on the *Reinforcement* pattern. Do not glue or sew the belt loop area to the *Back*. Matching holes in reinforcement punch holes through *Back* but do not punch open the holes for the belt loop or make slits.

**Step 5. Sew Gusset to Front.** With outside faces together, sew a narrow seam along long edge of *Gusset* and side/bottom/side of *Front*. In other words, with *Front outside* facing up on the table. Turn the *Gusset outside* facing down and line up a short end with the top of the *Front*. A long edge of the *Gusset* should be lined up with the *Front* side edge between letters **A** and **B** on the pattern piece. Now sew a narrow seam between **A** and **B** then continue sewing the seam to **C,D** and **E**. There should be a bit of *Gusset* left over. Just leave it for now.

**Step 6. Sew Gusset to Back.** This is the same as sewing the *Gusset* to the *Front* only a bit more difficult because the *Front* is already attached. **One important point:** make sure you start sewing the *Back* on at the same end where the *Gusset* short end is even with the *Front* top edge and have it (the *Gusset* short end) lined up with the *Back* top edge also, right sides together. After this seam is sewn you should have some leftover *Gusset* above the *Front* and *Back* at one end. Now is the time to cut that off even with the *Front* and *Back* top edges. Turn Sporrán right side out.

**Step 7.** On each side you have to punch holes for the drawstring. Fold the sides evenly with three inward pleats. The middle pleat should be in the middle of the *Gusset*. The other two pleats should be between the *Gusset* seam and the respective *Front or Back Reinforcement* piece. The top holes of the *Back* and *Front Reinforcements* should be directly over each other. Here is the idea: one drawstring passing through holes in the pleats from back to front will allow the sporran to be neatly drawn up. (check pictures below). Unfortunately, the holes can not be all punched at once, so you have to mark one or two, punch them, then mark some more,etc.,etc.



Drawstrings closed tight

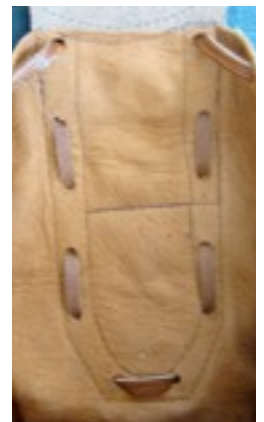


Drawstrings partly open  
showing 3 pleats per side



Drawstrings fully loosened

**Step 8. Lacing 1.** Get or cut a lacing that is long enough to lace through *Back Reinforcement* and along sides through *Front* (32" minimum). From inside push an end of lacing through each of the bottom most holes in *Back Reinforcement*. From outside grab the two ends of the lacing hold them together evenly and pull until the center of the lace is tight on the inside. Keeping the two laces even and smooth with your chosen side out continue going in and out of the holes up and along sides and out *Front* of each respective side. Tie a figure 8 knot in each end.



Inside of *Back Reinforcement*



**Step 9. Lacing 2. *If using***

***a button*** you need 6 to 8 inches of lacing. Thread the button in the middle of the lacing. Run an end of lacing through each of the center holes in the top of the *Flap*, then smoothly to what will be the lower hole on each side. Lace up through this hole with your chosen side out continue down through the hole above. Now tie off each end with a simple overhand knot. Try not to leave much slack in the lacing.



Back/inside/bottom



Front/outside/top

***If you are not using a button*** you need enough lacing to tie a large knot (monkey's fist, chinese button, or your own creation) in the middle with 3 or 4 inch ends left over. Then follow above.



**Step 10. Lacing 3.** You need 10" of lacing. Run each end down one of the upper two, of the lower four holes in the *Front Reinforcement* piece, then out to the front, again, through the lower two holes. Tie off each end with a figure 8 knot. To close your sporran, loop the loop over your button on the flap and pull both ends down tight.

