

# Beach Towel Roll-Up



Turn any warm weather outing into a trip to the beach with this brilliant towel project. Pockets at the base of the beach towel hold all your summer supplies. Then, simply roll the towel up and secure with elastic bands to transform it into a colorful carrying case for any day in the sun.

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## Project Needs & Notes:

- Beach towel (The example used in this tutorial is 30" x 54")
- Hand towel (The example used in this tutorial is 16" x 28")
- 3 pieces of 12" x 12" lightweight canvas
- 1/2 yard print quilter's cotton fabric
- Medium-weight cutaway stabilizer
- Lightweight water-soluble stabilizer
- Air-erase pen
- 1 yard of 1" wide strapping
- 1 yard of 1/2" wide waistband elastic

Designs used in this tutorial include:

- [M5171, Mermaid at Heart](#)
- [X12578, A Caribbean Creatures in Watercolor Design Pack](#)

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A template is a printout of a design, and is an excellent tool to plan where to stitch.

Print a template of the design from your embroidery software. If you do not have embroidery software, [Wilcom's TrueSizer](#) is a free program to use.

Lay the hand towel right side up and center the template on the towel.

Mark the center point and the



horizontal and vertical axis lines.



Remove the template.

Spray a piece of cutaway stabilizer with temporary adhesive, then smooth the towel on top. Use a topping of water-soluble stabilizer to keep the stitches from sinking into the fabric.

Hoop all three layers together, aligning the marks on the hoop with the marks on the fabric.



Attach the hoop to the machine and load the design.

Move the hoop so that the needle is directly aligned with the center point on the fabric.

Embroider the design.



When the design has finished, trim away the excess stabilizer on the backside of the embroidery and gently tear away the topping. You can use a damp sponge to remove any remaining pieces.



Measure and mark 2 1/2" out from the side edges of the design.

Draw vertical lines at the marks from the top edge to the bottom edge of the towel.

Cut the towel along the lines you just drew.



Lay the beach towel flat with the right side facing up.

Place the hand towel on top of the beach towel with the top edge of the embroidered hand towel about 1/2" from the top edge of the towel.

Fold the raw side edges of the embroidered piece in 1/2" to the wrong side and pin in place.



Sew a 1/4" seam along the entire outer edge of the hand towel.



Draw a 9" x 9" square on the lightweight canvas.

Center a paper template of the design inside the shape. There should be at least 1" between the design and the edges of the shape.

Mark the center point and the vertical and horizontal axis lines.

Hoop the canvas with a piece of cutaway stabilizer and embroider the design.

When the design has finished, trim away the excess stabilizer on the backside of the embroidery. Cut out the shape.

Repeat this process for a total of three pocket pieces.



Lay the pieces flat with the right sides facing up.

Align the left piece on top of the center piece, right sides together. Pin in place along the left side.

Align the right piece on top of the center piece, right sides together. Pin along the right side.

Sew a 1/2" seam along the pinned edges only. Press the back seams open with an iron.



Cut a piece of print quilter's cotton to 25 1/2" x 15". Lay the fabric flat with the right side facing up.

Align the assembled pocket piece on top, right sides together as shown. The top edge of the pocket piece should align with the top edge of the print fabric piece.

Pin in place and sew a 1/2" seam along the top edge only. Press the seam.



Align the bottom edge of the print fabric with the bottom edge of the pocket piece, right sides together.

About 2 1/2" of the print fabric will extend above the top edge of the pocket piece.

Pin in place and sew a 1/2" seam along the side and bottom edges only, leaving about 6" open along the bottom for turning. Do not stitch the top edge.



Turn the fabric right side out. Press the seams and the top fold.

Turn the fabric of the opening in 1/2" and press.

Lay the towel flat with the embroidered hand towel facing down.

Center the pockets at the bottom edge of the towel about 1/2" up from the bottom.

Pin in place and sew a 1/4" seam along the side and bottom edges. Do not stitch along the top edge.



To separate the pockets, sew along the seams in-between the pockets.

Start at the bottom edge of the pockets, going over the trim, to the top edge of the trim.



Cut a piece of 1" wide strapping to 36" long.

Fold the ends of the strap in 1/2" and pin in place along the top edge of the towel (with the embroidered pockets at the bottom). Pin 8" in from each top corner.

Allow 1" of the straps to extend onto the towel. Sew the ends of the strap in place.



Cut two 18" lengths of waistband elastic.

Fold one end of the elastic piece around the other end 1/2".

Pin in place on the towel to the outside edge of each end of the strap. Allow about 1" of the elastic to extend onto the towel.

Pin in place and sew an "X" at each end of the elastic.



Turn the towel over to the front and fold the handle down as shown.

Pin in place and sew the straps in place about 4" in from the outer edge of the towel.



To fold the towel, lay it flat with the inner pocket side facing up.

Fold the outer edges in to the inner side of each end of the straps.



Then, roll the towel up starting at the bottom end.

Loop the elastic around each end to hold the towel in place.



This beach towel is a fabulous way to prepare for a day at the beach or pool. A handy carrying strap makes it so-easy to carry; elastic bands keep it rolled up.





The pockets are a great way to corral your beach necessities, like sunscreen, sunglasses, books, toys.



Use the towel to lay out on at the beach, or to dry off after a dip in the pool, then roll it up and hit the road!

This project is featured on the [Embroidery Library Pinterest page](#).

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