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## **Burlap Christmas Stocking** with Maya Donenfeld

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### **Chapter 1 - Introduction**

#### Overview

- Burlap has an organic and earthy feel and using a recycled coffee sack is a fantastic way to add a little modern into your holiday decor. We're going to use a template to cut out typography and graphics of your choice to create your own unique stocking. Then we're going to stitch it up. I'll show you how to insert a lining and then we're gonna add a little jute loop and when we're done you'll have a modern stocking that's ready for filling. ^ (gentle music) (lighthearted music)

### **Chapter 2 - Materials**

#### Materials

- For each stocking, you'll be using about half of yard of linen or quilters weight cotton, a section of a coffee sack, your template, a rotary cutter and a self-healing mat, or if you just wanna use some really sharp sheers, that will do it too. Some pins, some jute twine. It's always good to have a bunch of extra universal needles on hand when you're working with burlap, especially if you're gonna make a lot of stockings. You're also going to need a sewing machine loaded with both your bobbin and your top thread with coordinating thread, and you're also gonna need an iron.

### **Chapter 3 - Prep Stocking Pieces**

#### Trace and cut

- I've already gone ahead and cut out my section of coffee sack for this burlap stocking. If you want to learn more about working with burlap, just check in on my burlap bunting video, and you can learn all the basics and 101 on coffee sack hacking. I intentionally picked out this piece of sack because the graphics in the print that were already stamped onto it feel a lot like the holidays. These are actually coffee bean berries, but it feels really Christmas-y. So, I'm going to take my template and move it along the section that I'm really excited about. I'm not gonna be as concerned with the weave, the warp and the weft of the burlap. I'm really gonna be looking at how I can capture as much of the graphics that I like. I'm trying to get these leaves right in. That looks about right. So, now we're ready to cut. Let's get ready. Okay, so there's two ways you can do this. You can put weights on here, or you can take a few pins, and pin directly to the template and the burlap. This is where a rotary cutter really comes in handy. The seam allowance has already been included in the template, so you're just gonna be cutting directly around the edge. Because I'm working with a smaller section of sack, it's much easier to move around to keep your cutting steady on your board. I'm gonna keep moving the template as I cut. So now, you're gonna go ahead and do the exact same thing with your back side of your stocking. Just remember, that when you're cutting out your template, you're gonna want to flip it over to the other side, so that your stocking back is facing in the other direction like that. I've already cut out my back side of the stocking. I chose some typography, some font, for the back. I'm just gonna go ahead and set this aside while I cut out my liner out of linen. I'm gonna do the very same thing. I'm gonna bring my template right over here to maximize my opportunity for not wasting any fabric. It's right up here at the edge. I'm gonna pin it in place. What's so great about this stocking is that it uses the same template for both the liner and the exterior. Linen is a little shifty, so it's really great to make sure you've got it pinned in place. And, I'm gonna cut it out with my rotary cutter again. A sharp blade always makes for simple and easy

cutting. As soon as a blade starts to catch and get dull, you really need to make sure you change it out. Please do the exact same thing with your other side of your lining. We've got one piece. You're just going to do a reverse side for your other piece of your lining. And, if you have something like linen, where there's no worry about right sides, you can do it with either one, but make sure that you flip over your template if you do have a fabric for your interior that has a specific right side to it. I already have my other piece cut out. So now, there are four pieces ready to go. Let's go get our sewing machine.

## **Chapter 4 - Sew Stocking**

### Sew stocking and liner

- I have two pieces of stocking, front and back, ready to go and I'm gonna make sure that the right sides are facing each other. I like to say they're kissing each other. And I'm going to pin it in place. Burlap really does like to stick to itself but it's good to have a few pins in place just in case. Then I'm going to do the standard treatment I do for all burlap, which is to sew a seam with straight stitching all the way down around and then take a zigzag stitch right along the edge to encapsulate the frayed edges, and that will be right along the edge in a parallel seam. Place the first top edge of your sack directly under your presser foot and use the edge of the foot as your seam allowance guide. Take my first pin out. Make sure you set your sewing machine to a straight stitch, and let's begin. I always stop and do a quick back tack to lock my stitches in place. I'm just checking to make sure that both sides of the burlap are caught in the seam. I'm gonna keep moving my stocking around with me, especially around those curves. Still checking to make sure both layers are in place. So in this next moment I always take out my pins and I take a look at the seam that I've just created and I think of my zigzag stitch as my safety security stitch. It's gonna catch any little spots that there might be a potential hole because of this loose weave for burlap. So I'm gonna flip my sack over and just check to make sure that the seam caught every little bit. I can see a potential weakening spot right here. I'm gonna remember when I do my zigzag stitch to capture this little spot in here and all along this edge. Other than that it looks great, so I'm gonna start with the zigzag, and I'm going to change my sewing machine and get ready. My presser foot is almost in the same position it was before, just slightly, just a little little bit over, and here we go. Now we're coming up to that little problem area and I'm gonna take my zigzag and make sure that it goes over the straight stitch as well. I'm gonna set this burlap piece aside and I'm gonna move on to working with the lining, and this is going to just be simple straight stitching around, no zigzag. So let's take it right back to a straight stitch. And I'm gonna put my presser foot down using my favorite seam allowance, the edge of the foot, and I'm gonna stitch all around the liner. Alright, now that we have finished both the exterior and the interior of your stocking, I'm gonna show you a simple way to insert the lining.

### Sew liner and hanging tab

- Turning your burlap stocking inside out is always an exciting part. It's like a big reveal. Just reach on in and gently turn it inside out. You get to have a little sense of what it's going to be. I always like to use my fingers to press out all of the seams. It helps give your sack some good shape, whether it's a stocking or some other burlap creation. Then I'll finish it off with some ironing. Just pressing it out. We need to get the top edge all set for tucking in, so I'm going to fold about half an inch in and tuck. Like so. And now I'm going to press the whole thing. Great, now let's do this one. The liner will not be turned inside out, but you are going to take the top edge and fold it over a little more than

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you did the burlap. This one's going to be about an inch and a quarter. Simple finger pressing will work. If you want to use the iron for extra insurance, just a little bit of a press. And now we're going to tuck it inside. So I'm going to move my ironing board. I'm going to get my stocking liner all tucked inside, and then line up the two top edges. And I'm going to take about six inches of jute twine for a loop. I'm going to pin this jute in place. The back toward the heel side of the stocking, right around the seam. I'm going to make sure that the lining edge and the burlap edge are matched. It might take a few pins just to keep them in place. I'm going to do a simple edge stitching all around the circumference of the opening. We're almost done, this is exciting. I'll begin edge stitching on the lining side, making sure that the needle is really close to the edge. As you come around to the jute loop, you want to make sure that you're going to do some back-tacking to secure your loop and give it extra strength. And then continue around to finish up your stocking. Alright, now we're going to cut off any last little bits of thread. And your stocking is ready to fill. And if you've got a coffee lover in your life, one pound of coffee fits perfectly inside, and you can put in a mug. And you're going to be the hero. (relaxing music)