

How to make spaghetti straps and your life easier

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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/how-to-make-spaghetti-straps-and-your-life-easier--3>



When I was making spaghetti straps for my Sweet Neopolitan dress for the first time I was ready to rip my hair out. Then after a little research I found the most miraculous tool ever!! Joann Fabrics carries one “turn-it-all”:

<http://www.joann.com/joann/catalog/productdetail.jsp?pageName=search&flag=true&PRODID=prd10485> (not my favorite, but the other is hard to find) and then the cadillacs of tube turners “fastturn”:

<http://www.fastturn.net/xcart/home.php> . You should always have a “loop turner”:

<http://www.joann.com/joann/catalog/productdetail.jsp?pageName=search&flag=true&PRODID=prd299> on hand. I tried all the other tricks and i was not successful at all (well at least one of my straps worked but it was torn to shreds and so were my fingers).

Step 1 — Materials



Gather your materials You can make your own tube turner by purchasing a small hollow tube (metal or plastic) from a hardware or plumbing store and by cutting the ends (making sure there not

sharp so your fabric won't get ruined).

Step 2 — Measuring



Depending on your need and the fabric chosen there a few ways you can cut your strip. I cut mine from selvage to selvage. You can cut on the bias it will stretch more, but usually easier to turn. If you cut on the bias you may want to add elastic or cording for extra strength. First, make the fabric straight (I rip my cotton so it's perfectly straight). Then, measure the width. I did 2 inches.

Step 3 — Cutting



Then cut or rip (some fabrics don't rip) your fabric at your desired length needed

Step 4 — finished strip



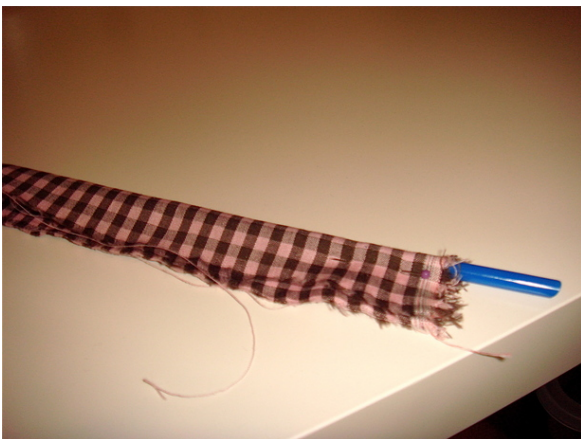
It should look like this. Iron flat

Step 5 — Placing tube turner



Choose the size you want. Place tube turner (3/16") in center of fabric strip on the right side.

Step 6 — Fold Over



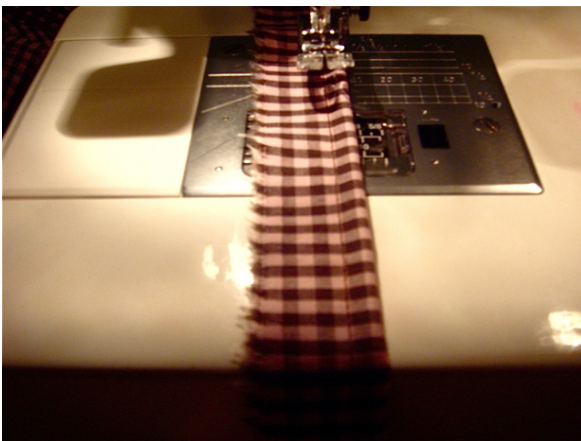
Fold over the fabric on the tube turner and pin. Wrong side facing up.

Step 7 — Line up



Remove the tube leaving pin in place. No need to pin the rest of the strap. Line up your fabric and pin with your needle and look for a marking to follow.

Step 8 — Sew



Now your ready to sew. Sew a straight stitch(or elastic stitch) down the length of the fabric..keeping in mind your marking point.

Step 10 — Trim



After your done sewing now it's time from trimming. Trim the excess seam allowance (if not putting elastic or cording in leave a little extra to fill tube). You can serge it or trim it. I used pinking shears.

Step 9 — Recheck



Recheck with your tube turner that it fits inside before you trim.

Step 11 — push/pull



There are 2 different ways to turn the tube using the turn-it-all. 1. PUSH: sew one end shut and place the tube inside your strap all the way until it hits your sewn end. It's easier if you scrunch the fabric onto the tube. take the rod and push down the sewn end and pull up on the fabric with your other hand. Then continue until you can pull the end out the other side. 2. PULL: (this is the way I prefer) no need to sew end (you can if you want to) and put your tube inside your strap. Again try to scrunch fabric onto tube, if it doesn't fit either cut your fabric or as I did scrunch it onto the hooked tube turner also. The Fastturn tube is much longer than the turn-it-all and has more size options.

Step 12 — Hook



Take the metal hooked tube turner from the bottom up. Hook the fabric at the top. Not quite sure if you can see this in the photo, but I hooked the fabric corner.

Step 13 — Pull



When you get to the top hook a corner of fabric and pull the hooked tube turner through downwards as you are pulling the fabric up with other hand . Be careful because the hook tube turner can come loose, just put it back up and re-hook. Once it's out far enough you can pull it through. If you were adding cording or elastic place it right after you started turning your tube, by pushing it in then continuing to turn the tube.

Step 14 — Almost done



It should look like this.

Step 15 — Stuff



Take the tube off your strap and to finish the ends if they are going to be exposed use a bodkin/stuffing tool/chopstick to push in the ends

Step 16 — Viola!!



You are done..Here is link to a video I found recently on how to use the "fastturn":
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmiAQU6Zwn4> . These tools are definitely worth it. The turn-it-all was \$9.99 and the fastturn kit is \$59.99 US. I am going to purchase the fast turn here soon.

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