

**WORD UP!**

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Recycled plastic and textile letter bunting



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# Recycled Textile Bunting

Visual Step-by-step guide

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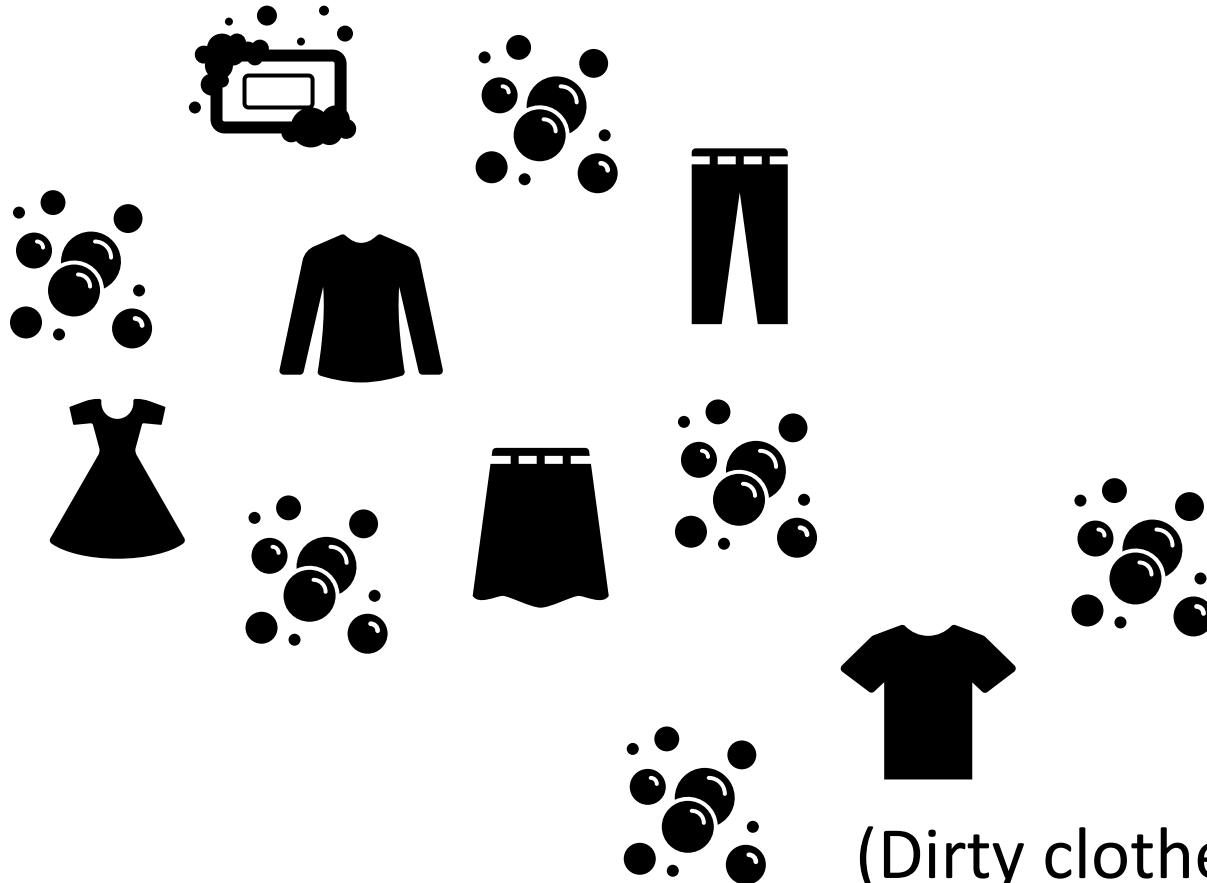
Recycled **Textile** Bunting

You will need:

- Old clothes/ Bedding
- Cardboard
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue sticks
- PVA glue and spreaders
- Pegs and/or paperclips
- Needles and thread
- Fishing line/ string/ yarn

# Step 1: Wash the Textiles

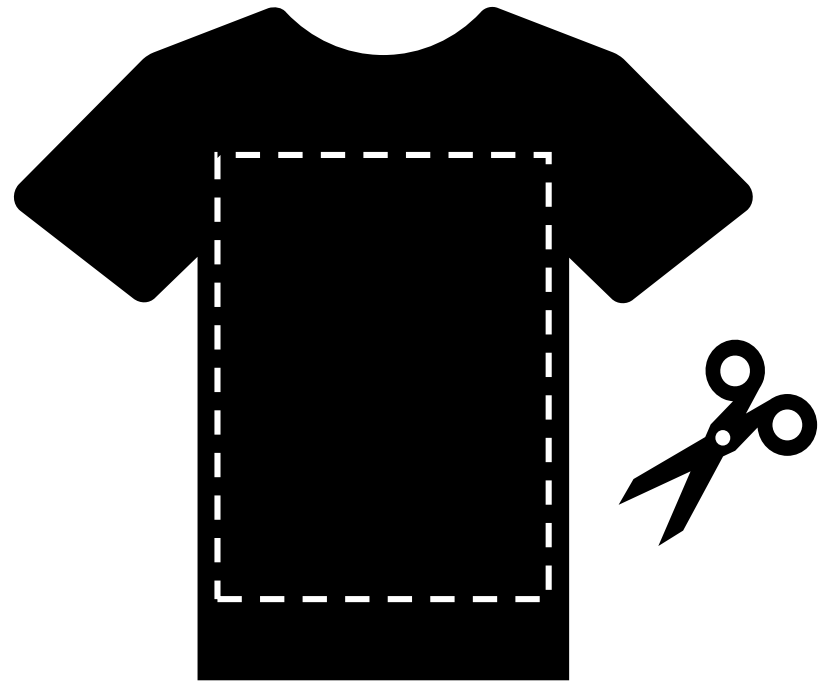
Wash and dry the textiles you will be using.



(Dirty clothes smell bad  
And are unhealthy to handle!)

## Step 2: Selecting your fabric

- Cut out the areas of fabric you want to use.
- Use flat areas of fabric without stitching or seams.
- Minimum size A4.



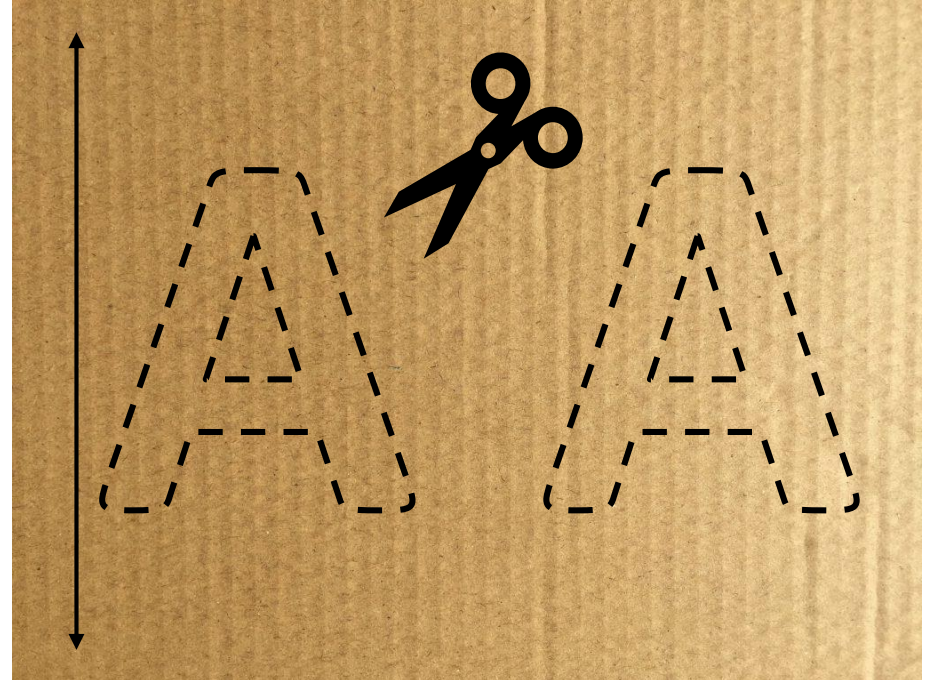
## Step 3: Pressing your fabric

For best results, press your fabric with an iron. Spray starch on the back of the fabric will make it easier to work with if you have it, but don't worry if you don't. Just iron out any big wrinkles from your fabric, using steam will really help.



## Step 4: Cutting out your cardboard letter shapes

- Prepare your cardboard using the letter templates.
- The grain (the lines ) should run top to bottom.
- You need 2 cardboard cut-outs for each letter of your bunting.



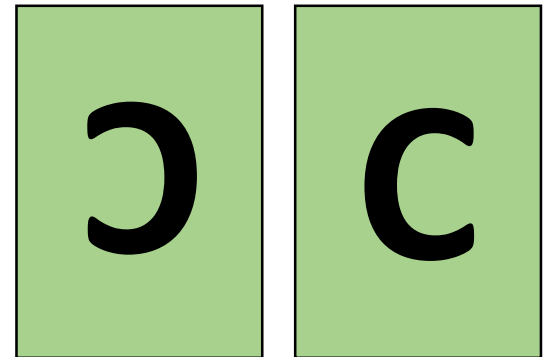
## Step 5: glue fabric to cardboard front

-Lay out two fabric pieces flat on the table.

-Apply glue-stick the front of your cardboard letters and place them face down on your fabric.

**IMPORTANT!** Remember that one letter should be the right way round, and one should be back-to-front.

-Cover with a board or a heavy book for 5 minutes or more.





## Step 6: Cutting the fabric

-Roughly trim the fabric around the cardboard letter, about 5cm from the edge of the cardboard.

-Cut snips into the fabric to allow it to be folded over. These are cuts in from the edges that stop a few millimetres from the edge of the cardboard.

You do not need to cut into straight sides, but make lots of snips around curved edges.

-Trim again to around 1.5cm from the cardboard.



## Step 7: Folding and gluing the fabric

-Where possible, start with any straight edges, the longest first.

-Alternate between opposite sides to keep the fabric straight.

-Curved edges should be started from the middle and worked outwards evenly.

-Any unwanted pointy folds can be gently smoothed over with a finger- tip.

-Use small pieces of baking paper folded in half over the edges, with paper, clips holding them in place while the glue dries( takes about 5 minutes).



## Step 8: Lining up your pieces

-Line up your two fabric-covered cardboard letters, with the inside facing out and the fabric sides together.

-Hold these in place with pegs or paperclips.



## Step 9: Sewing your top edge

-Thread your needle and tie both ends together in a knot.

-Sew the top edge of your letters together with a simple whip-stitch. You should just be sewing the fold of fabric, not the cardboard.



# Step 10: gluing your two sides together

- Fold your two letters along the line of stitch, so the fabric is on the outside.
- Glue the **bottom half only** of the two letters.
- Leave an un-glued area at the top near the stitching, this will be where the string for your bunting will go.
- Cover with a heavy book (in a plastic bag for protection) and allow to dry.
- Once dried they can be threaded onto your line using a pen





## Step 11: Hanging your bunting

-Tie the two ends of your string to walls, or wherever your bunting is being displayed.

(Try to get your line pulled tight to create a straight line.)

-Arrange the spaces between letters (this is called 'kerning'), and you're finished!

