



# Triarco®

Volume 8



## Woven Bag

Grade 5 and Up

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### Introduction

Share samples of different types of weaving — baskets, bags, etc., in as diverse a selection as possible. Discuss cultures that weave and have specific patterns within cultural groups, such as the Navajo.

Discuss the idea of bags and baskets as a way humans bring their favorite or necessary things with them. Can a bag make a statement? How does the outside of the bag relate to the contents or the purpose of the bag? What did historical people make their bags out of? Why? What materials do we have in our culture that we could make bags out of? Introduce materials — Smart-Fab® and Duck Tape®.

What are the benefits of these materials? Smart-Fab® does not fray and is easy to cut. It is also inexpensive and comes in lots of fun colors! Duck Tape® has a double bonus of being adhesive and being a design element.



## Directions

1

Cut five 2" wide strips of Smart-Fab® from the end of each roll (each will be 48" long). Cut five of the strips (same color) in half so you have 10 shorter strips. Leave the other five strips long.

2

Lay a 32" piece of patterned Duck Tape® (sticky side up) horizontally across your worktable.



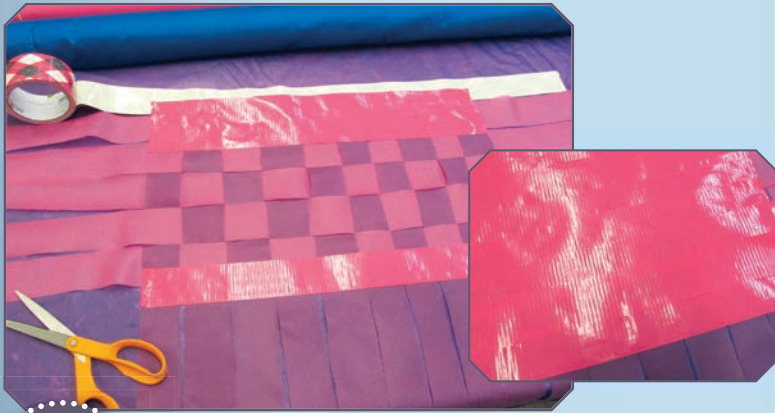
3

Center the 10 shorter warp strips of Smart-Fab® vertically onto the tape so that they come halfway up the strip at the top. Be sure they are lined up straight and right next to each other, but are not overlapping.

4



Starting right under the tape, weave the five longer weft strips of the contrasting color across the vertical strips. Center the strips horizontally. (Be sure they are lined up straight and right next to each other. Beat in each strip against the strip above it, making sure no weft or warp strips are crushed, twisted, or overlapping.)



5

Lay strips of plain-colored Duck Tape® (face down) across your weaving, starting halfway down the face up strip. Continue to lay strips this way all the way down to the bottom, overlapping slightly.

6

Fold the top strip of patterned Duck Tape® down over the plain tape.



7

Fold the finished weaving in half, left to right.



8

Tie the horizontal strips together in square knots, not too tight, but just so they snug up to the edges.



9



Tie one loose end of each tied pair to a loose end of the pair above it; tie the other loose end to a loose end of the pair below it.

10

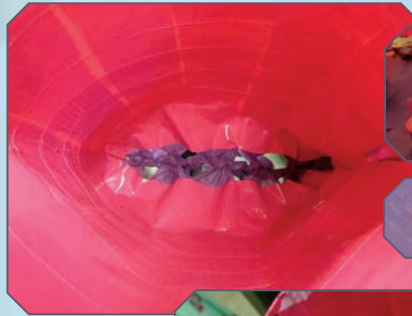


Tie the vertical strips along the bottom together in square knots as above.

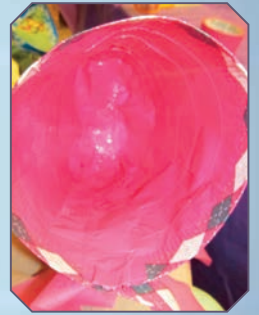


11

Tie the corner strips together in square knots.



12



Add a strip of Duck Tape® inside the bag along the row of knots on the bottom and up the side knots if desired.  
**NOTE:** Fold a strip of tape lengthwise and stick it to the sticky side of the piece before inserting it into the bag. This keeps your bag from being sticky on the bottom.

13



Add another strip of Duck Tape® along the bottom knots on both sides on the outside.

14



Create a handle as desired, either by securing the short leftover ends of the top strip into a small loop, or by sticking two lengths of Duck Tape® together and taping it to the inside of the bag.

15



Decorate or cut fringes of fabric as desired. You could add beads, cut them to different lengths, braid them, etc.

## Time Required

2-3 class periods recommended (45 minutes each).

## Objectives

### Students will...

- Discuss weaving as a craft throughout human history and culture.
- Consider the bag as part of human culture.
- Design a bag reflecting its intended contents.
- Create a flat weaving using the over/under technique.
- Secure the edges of a weaving project using a variety of techniques.
- Create 3-D containers out of 2-D materials.

## Vocabulary Words

**warp:** The vertical strips that form the base of the weaving; to warp (verb) means to attach the strips onto the loom. In this case, the warp pieces will be attached to a strip of Duck Tape®.

**weft:** The horizontal strips that are woven across the warp.

**beat in:** To push the weft strips close to the previously woven weft strips.



## Materials List

- Smart-Fab® — at least two 48" wide rolls in coordinating colors (Cat. Nos. RA17571 Dark Purple and RA17576 Pink)
- Colored Duck Tape® — one patterned roll (Cat. No. RA18811 Pink Argyle) and one or two plain rolls in coordinating colors (Cat. No. RA09545 set of 4 rolls in neon colors)
- Scissors
- Ruler or yardstick
- Marker

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