

Extra Thick Flannel Burp Cloths

When my daughter was expecting twins, she got a lot of nice things at her baby shower including a few burp cloths. She quickly realized that she didn't have enough so she asked me to make some for her. I improvised and used what ever flannel I had on hand: old flannel sheets, old flannel shirts, and scraps of flannel. She said they were the best even if they were a hodgepodge of solids, plaids and prints.

Some people use the pre-folded cloth diapers that are available at most big box stores but they just aren't big enough. The flannel burp cloths she received as gifts shrunk and weren't thick enough.



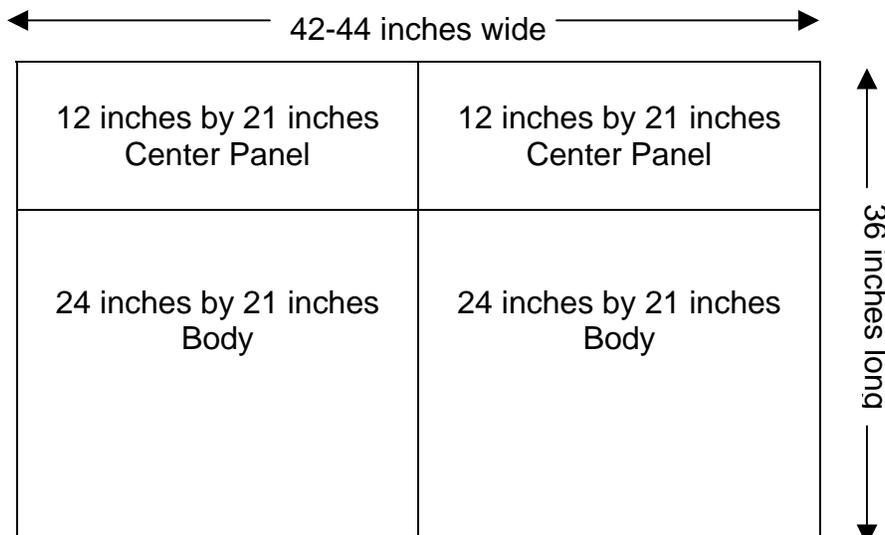
So I came up with this idea. They are made with cotton flannel and are double thick with four layers in the center panel.

1 yard of fabric makes 2 burp cloths 11 inches x 21 inches. To make 4 burp cloths with a contrasting panel, use 1 yard each of two complementary or contrasting fabrics.

1 yard 100% cotton flannel in color A (42-45 inches wide)
1 yard 100% cotton flannel in color B (42-45 inches wide)
Coordinating or contrasting thread
Rotary cutter (optional)
Scissors
Iron

Preshrink all fabric BEFORE cutting. 100% cotton flannel will shrink. A lot.

Cut each yard of flannel as shown. Use the center panel from one fabric with the other for a coordinating set, if desired.





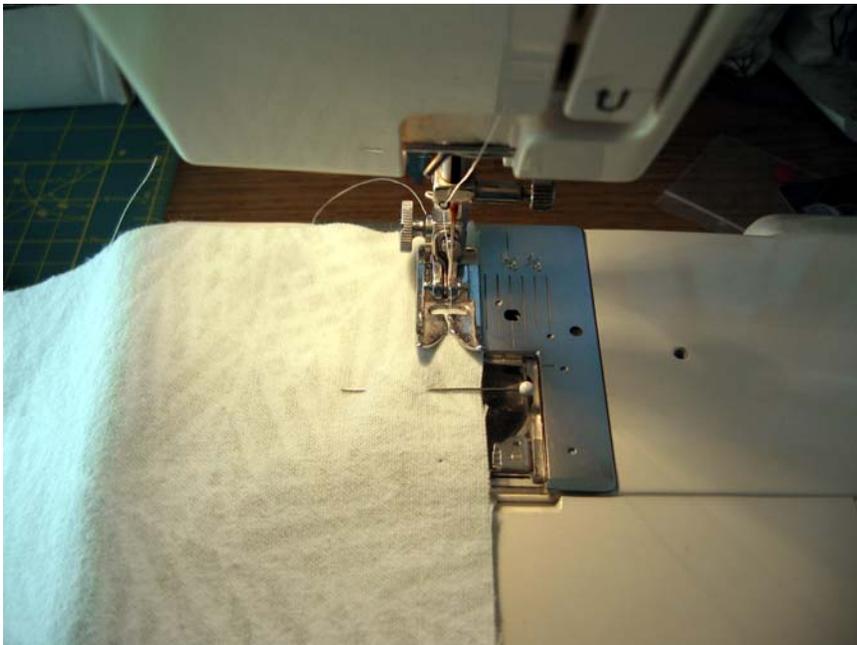
Fold Body in half so fabric measures 12 x 21 inches. Press along fold line. Use pins if necessary to mark this fold line.

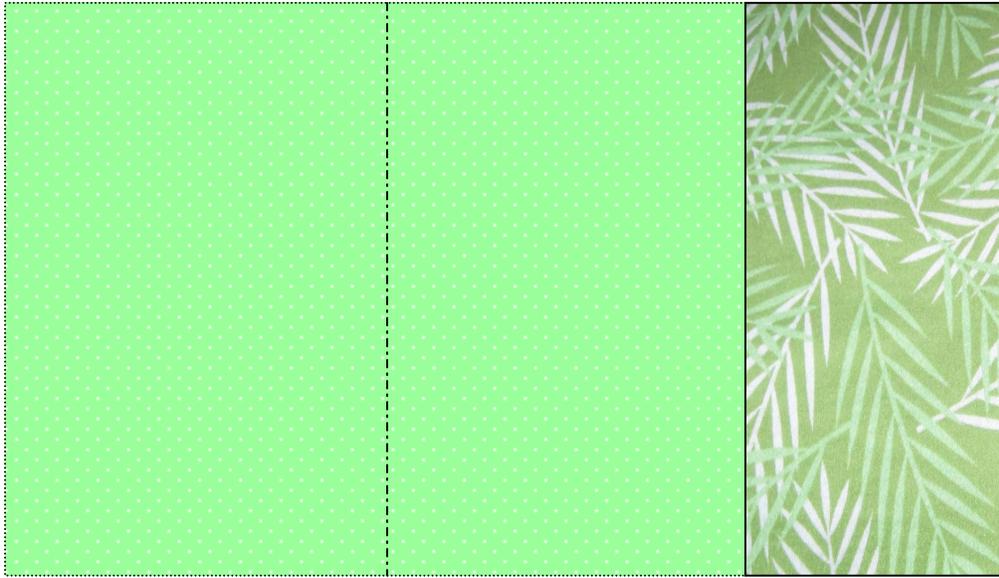


Using one BODY and one CENTER pin the 21-inch sides together.



Stitch 3/8-inch seam along pinned edge.





Press seam towards the center panel and fold center panel in half lining up edge with the stitching.



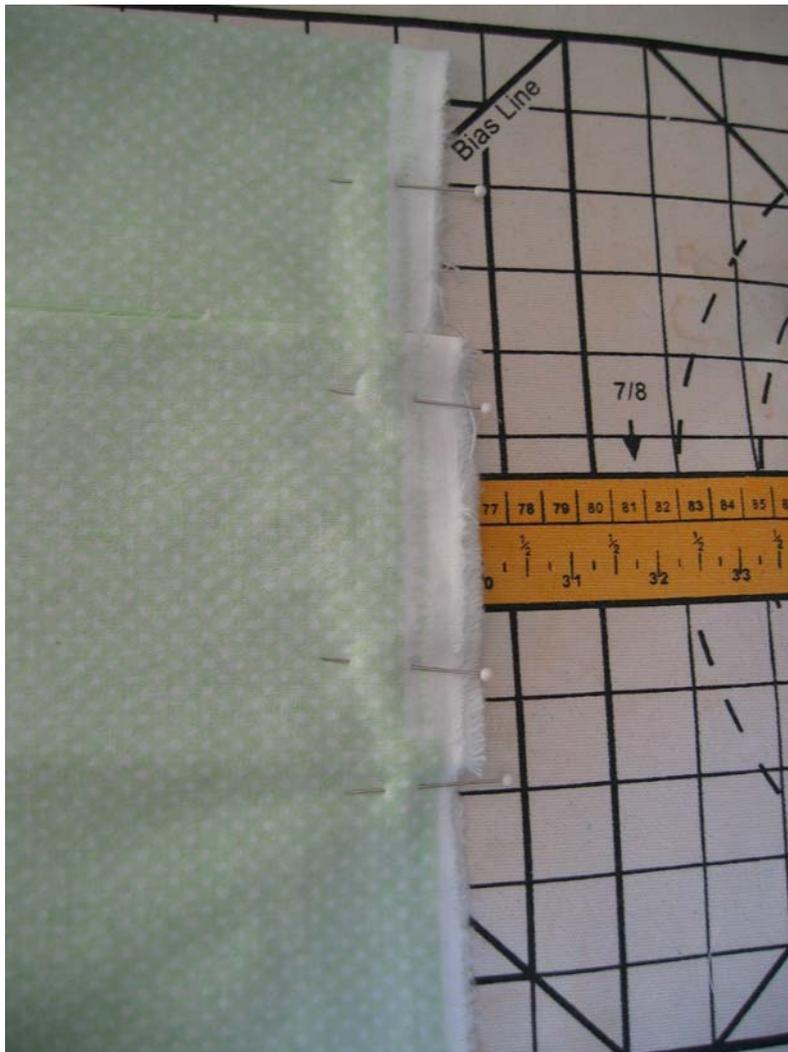
Press seam down making sure the center panel fabric edge is covered.



Line up folded edge of the center panel with the centerline of the body from step 1.



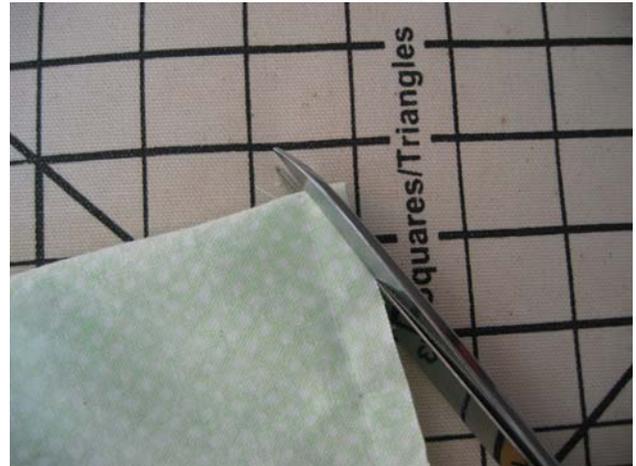
Now bring the right side of fabric over the center panel and line up edge to stitch line.





Stitch pinned edges with 3/8" seam making sure the overlapped panels are secured in the seam.

Trim seam to 1/4 inch and clip corners.



Turn right side out. Push corners out. Smooth fabric and make sure the center panel seam is over the loose edge of the inside lapped panel of the body.



Pin the overlapped edge to the body making sure all layers are secure.



Sew close to edge securing all layers.



Topstitch other center panel edge securing all layers.



Repeat steps for the three other pieces.

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I intended to use the gingham check fabric as one of the body pieces but the fabric shrunk too much so I decided to just use it as the center panel.



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