

How To Make 1981/1 Silent Night Fabric Advent Calendar

Make a pretty advent calendar that will hold treats and surprises year after year, as it becomes part of your family's Christmas traditions.

Watch our free instructional video on You Tube <http://www.youtube.com/user/makoweruk>



1981/1 Silent Night Advent Calendar Panel

Requirements	Quantity
1981/1 Makower Advent Panel	60cms / 24"
Coordinating Backing Fabric	(70 cm x 112cm / 27.5" x 45")
Wadding	(70 cm x 112cm / 27.5" x 45")
Thread to match	

Sewing Instructions For Advent Calendar

Make these easy to construct advent calendars and fill them with your own choice of sweets and treats for Christmas. Wendy Gardiner provides some simple steps and tips to make up the panels easily and quickly.

1. Cut out the panel around the border. Next cut out the pockets, cutting along the solid lines only.
2. On each pocket strip fold under the top edge to the wrong side and press in place.
3. Using the edge of the presser foot as a guide for the edge of the fabric, move the needle across to the right with the stitch width button and top stitch the turned edge of pocket strips in place.
4. Press the stitched tops.
5. To make the box pleats, pinch a fold in the pocket edge and fold it towards the blue dotted line and press in place. Repeat for the other side, and pin in place so that the folds at the bottom of the pockets are butted against each other. To hold the folds in place, stitch just inside the seam allowance.
6. Working from the wrong side, turn up the bottom edge and press. Then press in the side edges.
7. Pin the pockets to the panel over their printed counterparts. Note how the printed pattern all lines up beautifully.
8. Stitch the pockets along sides and bottom edge of strip.
9. Stitch along the dotted line, keeping the pocket folded out of the way. Don't try and start at the very bottom, just about 6mm. (1/4") from then end and then stitch to the pocket top. Reverse stitch to secure.
10. Cut the backing and wadding slightly larger than the pocket panel. Also cut a casing for the batten, 8cm (3") wide by the width of the panel less 8cm (3"). Turn the short ends of the casing under twice to form narrow hems and stitch in place. Turn under the long edges by 1 cm (3/8") and press.
11. Position the casing on the backing fabric 5cm (2") from the top and centred widthways. Stitch along the top long edge.
12. Gently push the bottom edge of the casing up a little creating a tunnel, pin and stitch in place. This helps the panel stay flat when the batten is inserted.
13. Working on a flat surface, layer the wadding, then backing fabric right way up and panel right side down, smoothing out each layer. Pin around the edges. Leave a turning gap in the bottom edge, TIP: Mark the turning gap with double pins to remind yourself to stop.
14. If you have one, attach a walking foot – making sure the side bar goes over the needle bar on the right which engages the feed dogs on the foot to work in line with those on the machine. Increase stitch length to 3mm and sew around the outer edge of the panels, starting midway along the bottom of the panel, pivot at the corners.
15. Trim the seam allowances and cut corners at an angle, leaving the turning gap untrimmed. Turn the panel through the right side, pushing out the corners with a point turner or knitting needle. Press, tucking in the raw edges of the turning gap. Slip stitch the opening closed.
16. The last step, which is optional is to top stitch around the inner edge of the red border.

To see the latest Makower collections and download free patterns please visit our website www.makoweruk.com and like us on face book.