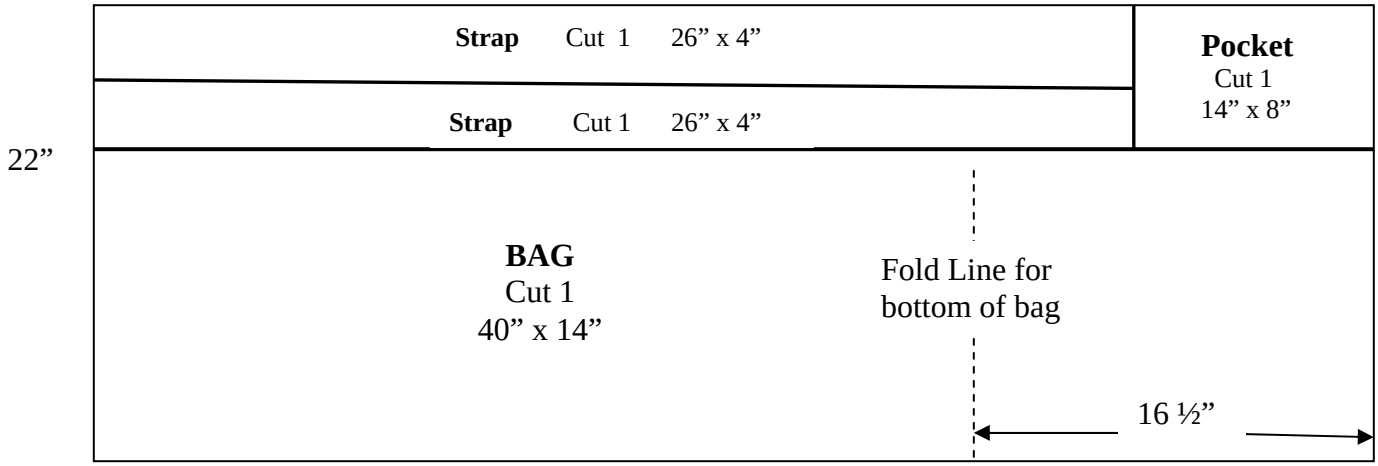
School Backpack Pattern
and directions
for the Haiti & Liberia school kits

Materials needed: Sturdy fabric (denim, twill, corduroy, drapery fabric, etc.) 40” long by 22” wide
Large button **or** Velcro piece 2” long (NOT the sticky back type)

1. Cut piece as shown in drawing A. Mark the line for the bottom of the bag ($16^1/_2$” from one end).
2. Serge or zigzag all the way around the bag piece; the ends of the straps; and the 8” sides of the pocket.
3. Press under ¼” on the long sides of the 2 **strap pieces**, then fold in half length-wise with wrong side inside, and press. Sew straps closed, near the turned under edge.
4. Press under ¼” along top and bottom edges of **pocket** (14” side) then press under another ½” for the top edge and sew it down.
5. On one end of the **bag piece**, turn down the 7” corners to create the pointed flap, as shown in drawing B. Sew a ¼” seam where they meet in the middle (outsides together). Then sew all the way around the triangle, securing it to the main bag piece (as shown in drawing B).
6. Position the straps on the outside of the bag piece as shown in drawing C. Sew the ends securely by stitching a box with an X in the middle of it, as shown.
7. Sew the loop side of the Velcro fastener (or the large button) to the center of the outside of the **pocket**, 2” up from the bottom edge. Place the pocket on the outside of the bag piece, 6” up from the bottom fold line, with the side seams even with the bag side seams. See drawing C. Sew across the bottom edge of the pocket.
8. Fold the bag piece on the fold line, with outsides together. Sew the side seams (with the pockets side seams) twice for reinforcement ($^1/_2$” seam allowance). Sew down any side seam allowance that is not caught in the side seam or flap. Turn right side out.
9. Align the hook side of the Velcro piece on the point of the flap and sew around it twice. (OR make a button hole in the proper place.)



Drawing A