

Make Your Own HAVERSACK

by: Steve Sullivan, 96th Illinois

One of the most treasured bits of gear worn and used by both North and South was the haversack. Forthwith is a way you can make one. The pattern is based on a Federal issue 1862 haversack in the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

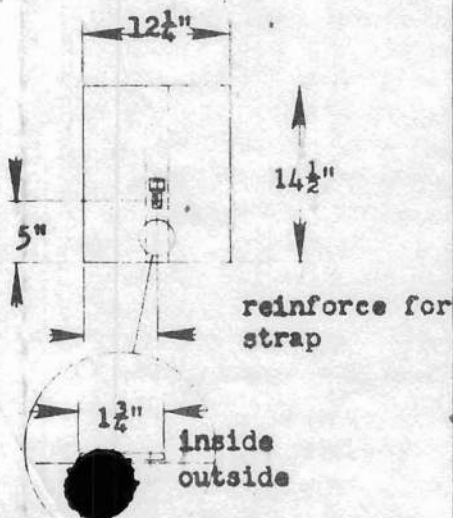
- A) One (1) yard unbleached medium weight cotton duck
- B) One-third (1/3) yard ticking, linen or muslin
- C) Three (3) bone or tin buttons
- D) Brown thread
- E) Black asbestos roofing cement
- F) Japanned tin buckle and leather strap

READ THROUGH INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE.

BODY ASSEMBLY

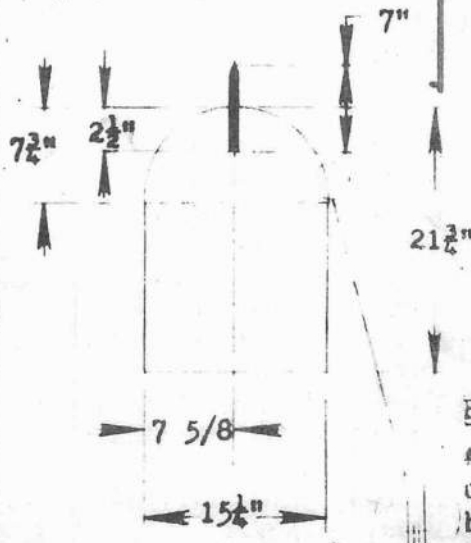
front piece:

Dimensions include enough material for $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowances



BODY ASSEMBLY

back piece:



BODY ASSEMBLY

bottom:



strap:

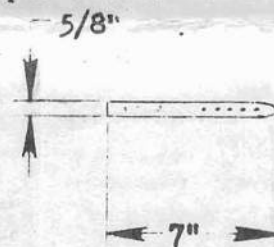
$1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide when finished about 32" to 38" long (fit to your body)

stitching in center:

The fold in the strap (seam) faces the front of the bag and is up when the bag is worn.

BUCKLE AND STRAP

About $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide dark brown or black. Sewn to flap of bag in center, on front of flap, reinforcement patch on inside side of flap. Can also be rivited with copper rivit.



Buckle attached to center of reinforced area on front of haversack to meet strap



Plain black Japanned buckle

LINER

One 12" x 24" piece of duck, linen or mattress ticking is needed. Fold the piece back onto itself to make an $11\frac{1}{2}$ " deep. Sew up sides.

[continued on page N° 10]

Hale Farm with its small town across from it. Those, buildings were torn down and moved there from various locations in Ohio. All are historical in importance. The Turnpike Rt. 80 is immediately north of the town of Peninsula, Ohio. So in returning from a reenactment on a Sunday do stop and visit the GAR Hall in beautiful Peninsula, Ohio.

There are plenty of very fine fabric and gift shops in Peninsula that offer hand crafted early Americana gifts. You would be quite in place wearing the C.W. uniforms and gowns of the 1860's at the GAR Hall restaurant, gift shops and Hale Farm site. A very suitable Civil War era wedding reception could be held there if desired. The address is as follows if you wish to write or call about any reservations or information. Write "The GAR Hall Riverview Road & Rt. 303, Peninsula, Ohio 44264. The phone: Peninsula 657-2211. Remember all you can eat on Sunday of a home cooked buffet that is entirely Civil War in style, and still a gormets delight.

Out at the Hale Farm, home made candy, cider, and roasts are prepared, and beef stew is served in September. All food is grown on the farm and is cooked outside so that visitors can learn the 19th century culinary arts. The Hale Farm has been host to Civil War battle reenactments in the past. So don't miss visiting the Hale Farm too.

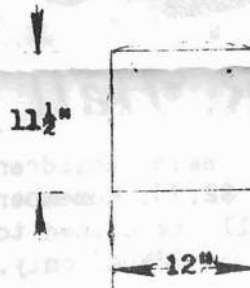
Hope you all enjoy the stop over idea because both places are really out of the

way seldom noticed historic sites for C.W. Reenactors.

I will write about our visit next month to the: "John Brown" home in Akron, Ohio. Oh yes, John Brown raised sheep in Akron. John Brown also worked at his father's tannery in Hudson, Ohio, which is on Rt. 303 not far from Peninsula, Ohio. "til next month, have a most joyous holiday season.

MAKE YOUR OWN HAVERSACK continued from page N° 8

Make two or three button holes on one side. Sew buttons on inside of back piece of haversack. Liner will rest on these buttons until needed to clean your musket barrel.



TARRING INSTRUCTIONS:

Now is you have gone this far comes the point in this exercise that separates the veteran from the recruit. (if you are unsure, check the lining of your coat)

1. Haversack must be completely assembled.
 2. Remove liner and set it aside.
 3. Coat exterior of haversack both sides, strap and inside of flap with black roofing cement.
- NOTE: Do not attempt this step on the kitchen table. This is outside work and wear gloves.

Make sure to cover cloth fibers evenly and completely.

4. The resulting mess should be allowed to dry for between three to ten days or until dry. Hang the haversack by its strap and occasionally pry the bag open.
5. When completely dry, apply black paste shoe polish, and buff. Repeat this several times.
6. Cover outside of haversack and inside of flap with creme saddle soap, let dry and buff.