

# Sewing Instructions for a Quick, Easy, Inexpensive "Raincoat" for a Medium - Small Harp

materials needed: plastic shower curtain liner (72" wide), thread

A heavy enough rain, or long enough walk in the rain can leave even a water resistant harp case so damp that by the time a gig is over, it is soaked through. Even when a harp gets into a building dry, there is a risk of damage if a wet case, that has perhaps been folded in a corner, is placed on the harp for the trip home. This solution uses a dollar store shower liner and takes about 15 min. start to finish.

Step One: Fold the shower curtain in half length wise (the top and bottom form the opening at the back) and slip over your harp to get the size and shape needed. Use clothes pins or large paper clips to hold the top seam in place for measuring. Because the dolly for my harp leans back, the opening is at the back so that there's less chance of water getting inside while moving.

Step Two: Cut the excess plastic away before sewing the seam across the top. It's easiest to do this while you've got your clips in place, laying the plastic flat on the floor. Be generous at first, as a pattern cut too big can always be adjusted smaller.

Step Three: Sew the top seam by sewing the first seam, wrong sides together with a small seam (3/8") and then turning right sides together and sewing again. As long as you come up with a seam that's double stitched in some way, you'll make it more waterproof.



Step Four: The raincoat will need a closure. If the liner you are using comes with magnets, some will end up along the open edge at the back and some will have been cut off. The extras can be cut off and sewn back on to help hold the raincoat closed. You may need to find other clips to be sure it stays closed. I use clothespins.

Step Five: A large resealable plastic bag is a good way to store a used, damp raincoat so your other gear stays dry. Make and carry two of these so you'll have a dry one for the return trip.