

MAKING YOUR OWN WRAP

1. Decide your wrap size and add ½" on all four sides for finishing. Fabric is typically sold as 42" or 54" wide
2. Cut fabric into a perfect square. For a quick wrap use pinking shears to cut out the square. This will prevent the edges from fraying and works especially well for a casual country look.
3. Fold edges over ¼" onto the wrong side and iron. Fold over ¼" again and iron.
4. For the corners, unfold the edges and trim off the corner diagonally across from the second fold line.
5. Fold the corner edge over by 1/" and iron. Refold the straight edges and iron again to finish the corner.
6. Topstitch using a thread that blends into the colors in the wrap.

CHOOSING YOUR FABRIC AND WRAP STYLE

A good wrap should be the right weight of fabric that is opaque enough to conceal the gift, yet thin enough to tie nice knots. If the fabric is too thick, the knots will be bulky and difficult to tie; if the fabric is too lightweight, the ends of the wrap won't hold their shape and will droop. A thicker fabric can be used for the folded wraps, (fukusa-tsutsume) as there are no knots involved. The shape of the gift will determine which style of wrap to use.

FIGURING OUT YOUR WRAP SIZE

You can refer to the size tips below, or measure your gift's length, which should be approximately one-third the size of the diagonal measurement of the wrap from corner to corner. If the wrap is too large, it may look baggy, and the ends of the knots will be far too large; if it is too small, the gift will poke out and be revealed. Furoshike come in sizes ranging from 18" to 52" square without seams. The most common size is 28" square.

Small Wrap: 18" to 24"

A jewelry box a paperback book, a mobile phone, a box of chocolates,, stationery, a gift envelope

Medium Wrap: 28" to 30"

A bottle of wine, a hardcover book, clothing, a bouquet of flowers, a package of food

Large Wrap: 36" to 42"

2 bottles of wine, 2 books, a ball

Extra-Large Wrap: 48" to 52"

A picnic basket, a blanket, a picture frame

Book: The Art of Fabric Gift Wraps WRAPAGAMI by Jennifer Playford