

DEEP SOUTH REGION NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

BOSOM BUDDY BOTTLE BAG PROJECT

In 2010, garden club members in the Deep South Region embarked on a project for those facing the challenge of recovering from breast cancer surgery – the DSR Bosom Buddy Bottle Bag.

As an extension of National Garden Club's Plant It Pink project honoring breast cancer patients, the DSR Bosom Buddy Bottle Bag project is a course of action that was developed to reach and aid individuals – women and men - immediately following breast surgery.

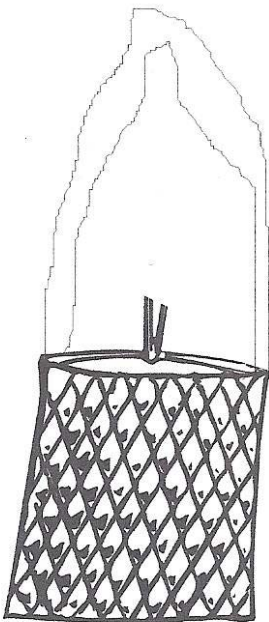
As part of breast surgery protocol, drainage tubes are inserted and attached to two drainage bottles. These remain in place for the first week(s) following surgery. No provision is made for managing these bottles at the hospital, for the trip home or for recovery time at home. Imagine having to hold a bottle in each hand and attempting to complete the simplest task – from brushing your teeth, dressing for the day or eating a meal!

The Bosom Buddy Bottle Bag was designed by a breast cancer surgery patient as a practical and creative solution to the handling of the drainage bottles 24/7. Garden club members in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, have joined together to sew the bags and deliver them to surgery centers in local communities for distribution to breast cancer surgery patients. It is suggested that a contact person – preferably a nurse on the surgical floor – be engaged to assist with the distribution of the bags.

Directions for the bags are on page 2. Template for Bag tags (Avery Clean Edge Business Card) on page 3.

DEEP SOUTH REGION BOSOM BUDDY BOTTLE BAG

Prepared for breast cancer surgery patients to hold drainage bottles in the hospital and for the first week(s) of recovery



Finished size of bag:

9 ½ inches wide
7 ½ inches high

Strap: Approximately ¾ inches wide

42 to 43 inches long for short person
44 to 45 inches long for tall person

Directions:

- Bag: Cut 2 pieces of fabric 10 ½ inches wide by 9 inches high
- Strap: Cut a piece of fabric 2 inches wide and 2 inches longer than desired finished length of strap
- With wrong sides of bag together, sew ½ inch side and bottom seams.
- Make a 3/8 to ½ inch hem at inside top edge of bag by folding 3/8 or ½ inch and then folding again to make a finished hem. Sew hem.
- Fold in raw edges on length of strap and sew both edges for a finished edge. Fold each end under and sew to bag at side seams.

This bag was designed by a breast cancer patient.