

Home Made Panniers

By

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This is the process I have worked out from studying various images of panniers to make your own to the exact process used back in WW2. The process itself is very straight forward, simple and cheap on materials. Please check the corresponding image with the written instruction. The image "Pannier Dimensions" is the drawing I did to work out my sizes.

Image 1

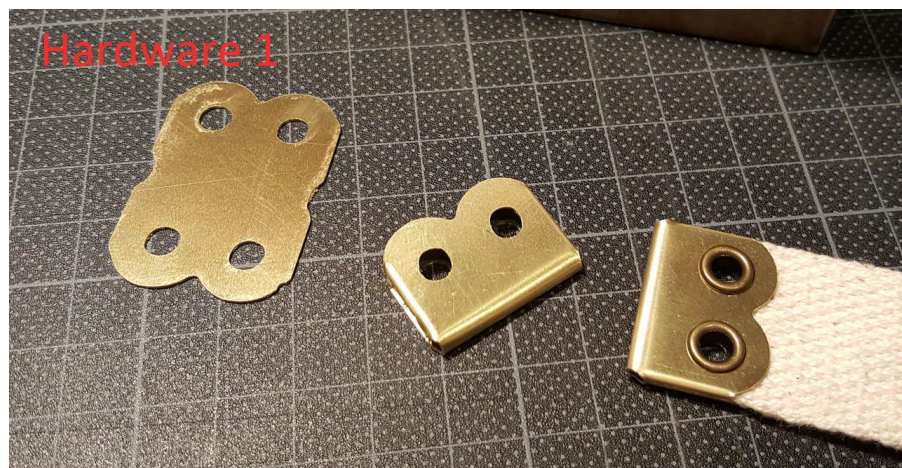
First I purchased canvas webbing and copper rivets to attach the leather corners to the back of the panniers. I then worked out the dimensions not forgetting to allow extra for all the seams that are needed for sewing the panels together. For the leather corners I



programmed a pattern on Auto-CAD and then I cut them out with the use of a laser cutting machine, this just saved time and made them a lot more accurate.

Hardware 1

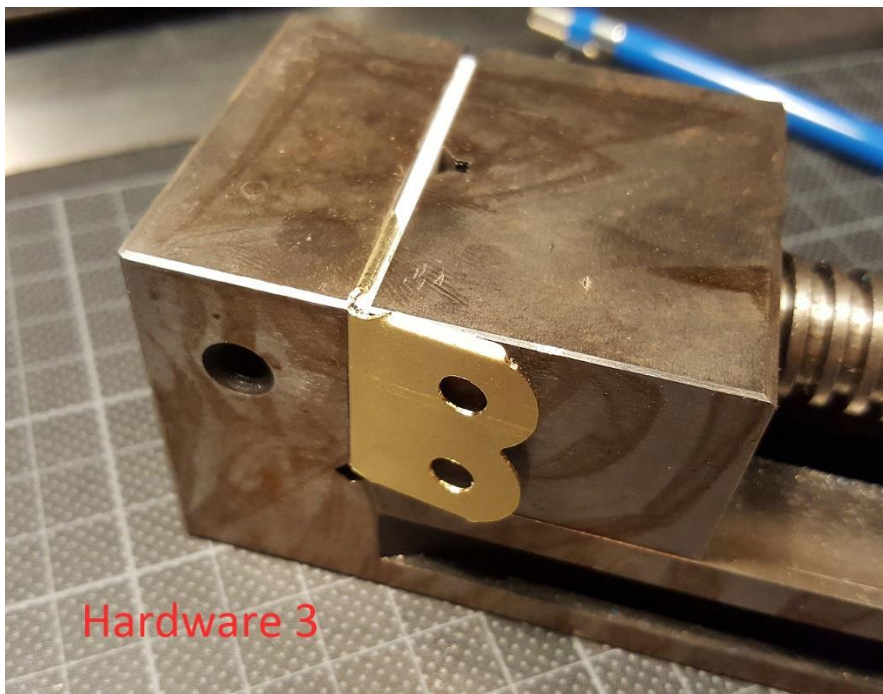
After many hours of shopping around without success for the P37 brass hardware that is attached to the ends of the webbing strip. I designed and programmed a pattern on Auto-CAD and cad cam milled the pieces from stock 0.5mm



brass sheet. This image shows the flat piece after cutting, then the piece folded up and finally riveted together on the end of the webbing.

Hardware 2

First a 1mm wide edge is folded over on both sides in a small vice, this can be bent over by hand and no tools or hammering is needed.



Hardware 3

Next the brass is folded in half, I formed it around a piece of plastic strip cut to the same width as the webbing. It needed a few tries first before I started folding in the correct place so the holes lined up for the rivets to go through.

Hardware 4

Two holes are punched through the webbing and the end is slid into the brass fitting and the rivets pushed through and hammered using the special tools. This shows both the one inch and two inch brass ends attached to the webbing pieces.



Image 2

I marked out the pattern on the canvas using tailors chalk and cut them out. The two large rectangles shown are both sets of panniers, the smaller rectangles are the sides for one set of panniers. And the 4 webbing fasteners enough for both panniers.

Image 3

I then used thin webbing to sew around what will be the top flap of the pannier shown in image 1. Image 2 shows the centre strap with a length to fold over the top of the carrier frame to attach to the second pannier. Image 3 shows the additional 2 pieces of webbing, all 3 pieces are as you know for protection against wear from the metal frame.



Image 4

This shows both panniers one left with a longer centre strap ready to attach the 2 inch buckle.



Image 5

The long top strap was laid and sewn over the ends of the vertical straps, this piece has extra on each side as in the final process it will be sewn on the inside around the sides and onto the front panel.



Image 6

Rather than cutting 3 separate panels and stitching them together I cut one large rectangular piece of fabric but I still allowed space for two seems to be folded and sewn to produce the bottom panel.



Image 7

The side panels also received their edging around the flaps and diagonal protection at the base.



Image 8

What will be the top edge of the pannier was folded over and a thin piece of webbing was sewn over the seam to make the edge neat.



Image 9

Both the buckles and the straps were attached before the pannier side are attached, as it is easier to maneuver the fabric in the machine.

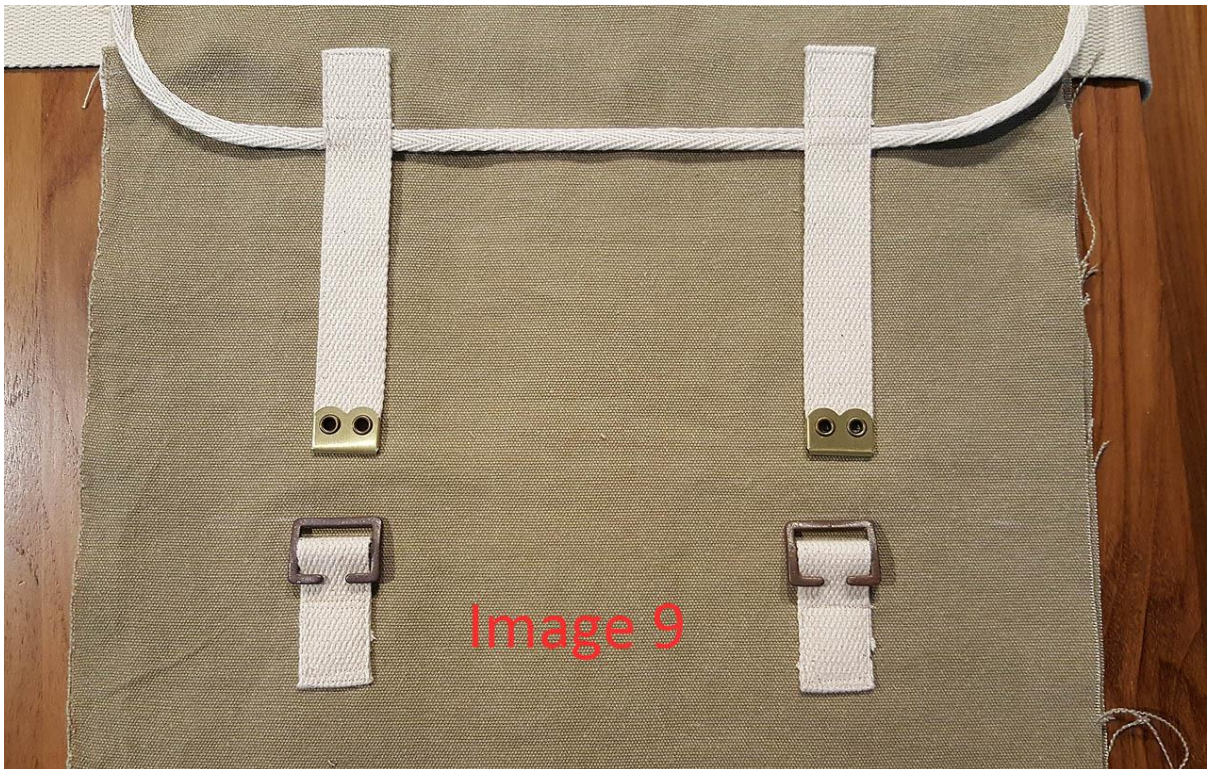


Image 10

Both side panels are sewn in place at the base

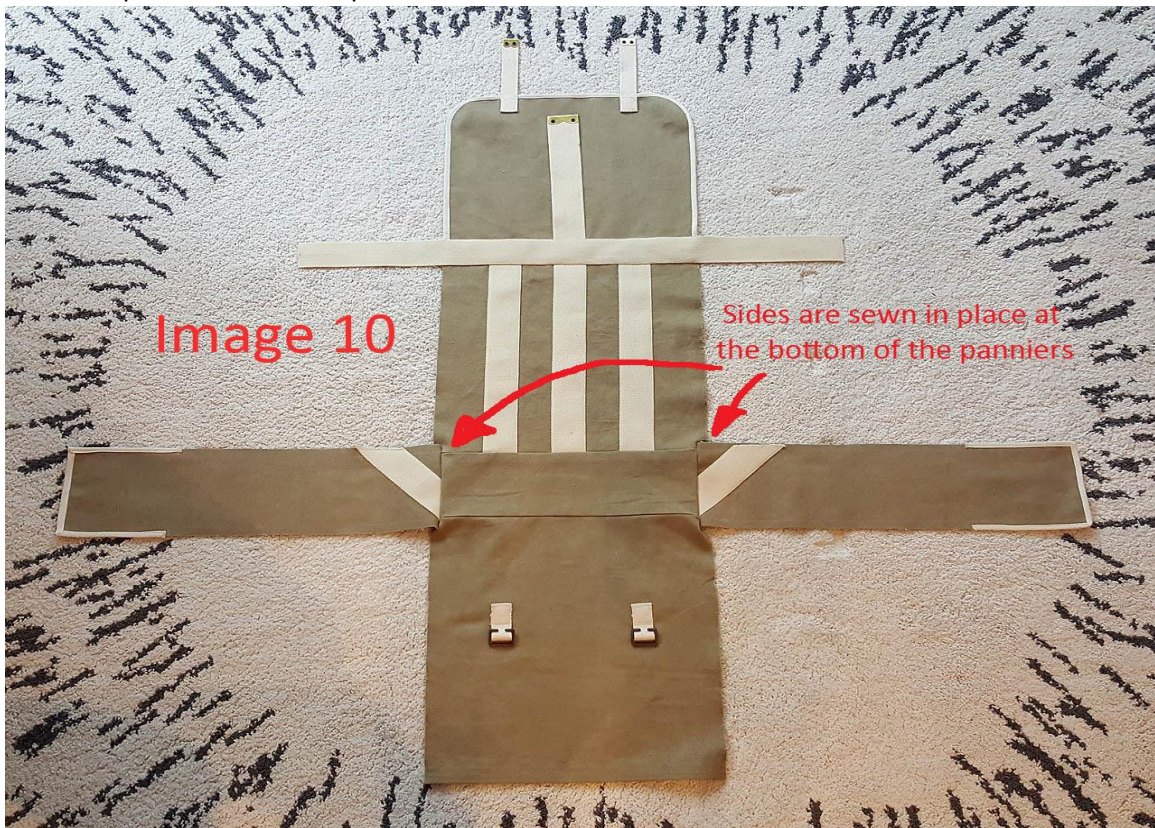


Image 11

The side panels are then sewn to the back panel as shown and then the same treatment will also be given to the front.



Images 12 & 13

The last 2 images shows one of the completed panniers the edges were also sewn on the outside pinching the pieces together to provide a more robust and durable seam down the long edges.



Image 12



Image 13

Edges are nipped and sewn together



Corners 1 to 5

These images show the addition of the leather corners that I programmed on AutoCAD and then lazer cut out of thick leather. I used copper rivets and steel L brackets that I picked up in a hardware shop to attach them to the panniers. Once fitted to the frames the position for the press stud could be marked a hole punched and the stud attached.

If anyone requires the drawings on AutoCAD please let me know and I will post a link for download.





Y straps were made with the same materials And I cut a stencil out of masking tape and sprayed the war department logo onto the front.

