

INTERNAL SUPPORTS FOR LEGGINGS

Purpose

These internal pads were designed to provide adequate internal support and to prevent further folds and creases from occurring. The leggings are in the Native American collection at the Nebraska History Museum. The leggings were stored in inert storage drawers in a mobile shelving unit and piled atop each other. This storage system led to bead loss, torn leather, and creases. Custom supports were created for each legging and the leggings were stored together on trays.

Description

The internal supports are made from soft-structure Tyvek sewn together and filled with loose polyester batting. The leggings were tied to padded support trays with cotton twill tape and stored in standardized acid-free boxes.

Materials, Tools, and Supplies

- Flexible ruler
- Metal straight edge
- Soft-structure Tyvek, cut to size
- 100% white cotton thread
- Loose polyester batting
- Cotton twill tape
- Utility knife

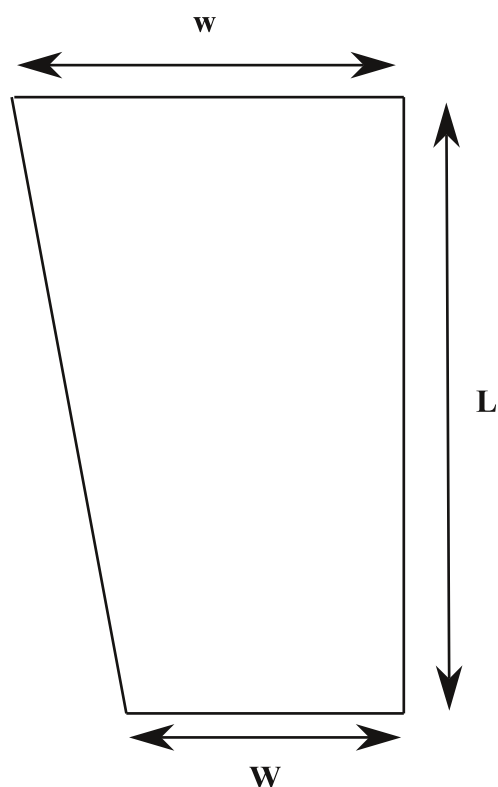
Directions

- 1) Determine the outside dimensions of the leggings (length, width, height) to determine the size of the box needed to house the leggings.
- 2) Determine the inside dimensions at the thigh and ankle openings of the first legging.
- 3) Using your measurements, draw the diagram in Fig. 2 onto the soft-structure Tyvek. Cut out two pieces of Tyvek using a sharp utility knife. Change the blade often.
- 4) Place the two pieces of Tyvek with slick sides together.
- 5) Using 100% white cotton thread, sew the pieces of Tyvek together on three sides. with a $\frac{1}{4}$ in seam.
- 6) Turn the pillow inside out.



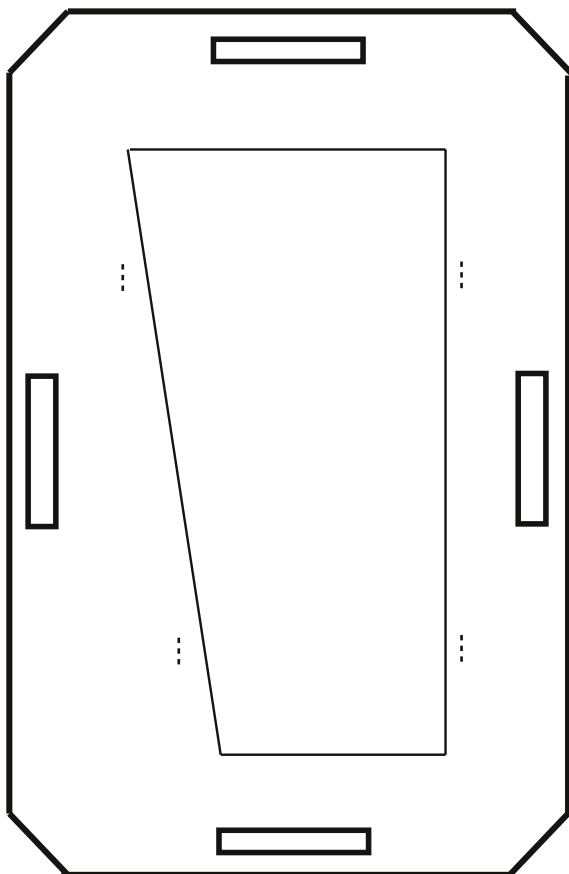
Fig. 1 Rehousing Native American leggings.

Fig. 2



- L length of legging
- W width of opening at ankle
- w width of opening at thigh

Fig. 3



- 7) Fill the pillow with loose polyester batting. Be careful to not overstuff the support.
- 8) Sew the fourth side together.
- 9) Repeat steps 2-7 for the second second legging.
- 10) Using the leaflet, "Support Trays," follow the instructions for cutting out stacking double trays.
- 11) Cut slits in the tray as seen in Fig. 3.
- 12) Thread long pieces of cotton twill tape through the slits and under the tray to tie the leggings in place.

Comments

The internal supports were used in the rehousing of the Native American leggings made of leather or textile and heavily decorated. Each pair of leggings were stored in standardized textile boxes of 18in x 40in x 6in.