



Woven Drip Mat

Topic - Art project for Hanukkah

Grade Level

May be used for all grades; however there will be more teacher preparation involved if making this project with younger students.

Goals for the Lesson/Activity

Students will enjoy creating a beautiful woven drip mat to use under their *Hanukkiah*.

Materials needed

- Access to a laminator
- Lengths of Hanukkah fabric for the drip mat base and different Hanukkah fabric for the weaving strips. Read the **How to Calculate Yardage** to figure out how much fabric to buy. If you are unable to purchase holiday fabric, substitute holiday-themed wrapping paper.
- Scissors, masking tape, rulers

Prepare in Advance

Depending on the group you will be working with, you may want to pre-fold the drip mat and draw cutting lines or actually cut the inner mat lines before the project begins. (see student Woven Drip Mat sheet). Mark the lines or cut evenly-spaced one inch slits, starting from the folded edge and continuing up to about one inch from the opposite (open) edge.

Preparing the Fabric:

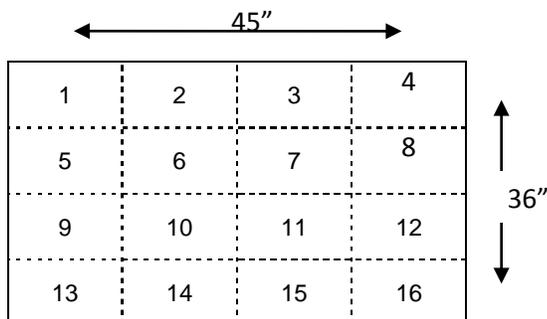
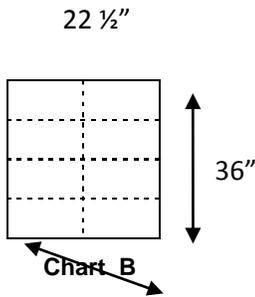


Chart A

How to Calculate Yardage: Generally, printed cotton fabric is 45" wide, and sold by the yard (26" long). Each yard of Hanukkah fabric will yield 16 drip mat bases. Divide the number of students by 16, that will give you the yardage needed for the drip mat base (see Chart A). For example, if you have 24 students you will need $24 \div 16 = 1\frac{1}{2}$ yards of Hanukkah fabric for the base. Add one additional yard of a different Hanukkah fabric per every 16 students for the weaving strips.



Woven Drip Mat



Laminate the fabric first. Laminate the fabric for the drip mat base and the weaving strips. For a standard 25-27" laminator, cut the fabric down the center so that you have a 22^{1/2} wide by 36" long pieces of fabric (see Chart B).

To make the mat bases:

Cut the laminated fabric into sixteen 11 x 9 inch rectangles. Save all salvage strips for weaving into the mat.

To make the weaving strips:

You will need 5-8 strips per mat.

Cut fabric into strips. You can vary the width of the strips- cut some 1" wide, 1^{1/2}" wide and some 2" wide. All strips should be 9" long. The size variation looks nice in the mat, and also allows those children with less dexterity to hold on to the wider strips easier and finish more quickly!

Description of Activities

1. Share family traditions around lighting the Hanukkah candles. Do they sing songs, play dreidel or share stories while the candles are burning? Is there a special treat that is always served? Did anything silly ever happen when their family gathered around the Hanukkah?
2. To create these drip mats, follow the directions on the next page.



Woven Drip Mat

1. Fold a laminated 9"x11" piece of Hanukkah fabric in half so that it measures 9" x 5^{1/2}".
2. Make inch-wide cuts from the folded side to one inch below the top edge, being careful not to cut all the way to the top edge of the paper. Be sure to STOP cutting about one inch away from the top.



3. Weave the fabric strips vertically through the Hanukkah drip mat base. Alternate weaving the strips over-under-over, then start the next strip under-over-under.



4. Once you have finished weaving, lock the pattern together by turn the mat over and taping a big X on the back with masking tape to hold all of the strips in place.

