

As part of the building process of any kite you are left with a number of small pieces of fabric, the scraps, or as we call them “small pieces with a use yet to be determined purpose.” This logic lead to the creation of much of the line laundry that we have. It also lead to the creation of a soccer ball style sphere, created from about 175 small triangles. This four foot rainbow ball was a big hit on the flying field and used up quite a few scraps.

One day while on the flying field while watching the scrap ball bounce around Jim commented that he had been looking online for parachute or Bol plans and had found a couple. We began to wonder what would happen if we were to scale up the scrap ball, and instead of making a sphere, simple stop the construction half way. The wheels were greased and turning... A few weeks later Jim had complete the first of his Bols, made completely from remnant scrap material....

Since then there have been many more Bols. Jim has made three more, and other members of NYKE have also made them. They are simple to complete, use up your left over pieces and are a big crowd pleaser on the field. Every time one is pulled out at a festival we receive another request for the plans, so here they are:

These plans describe the process to complete a Red White & Blue Bol like the one pictured on the cover. Although this pattern looks great, any color combination can be used, especially if it means using up the existing scraps you have. I highly recommend creating the patterns and cutting triangles from any scrap you produce, saving up the pieces until you have enough for a whole Bol!

8 Foot – Triangle Assemblage Bol

Plans By: Jim and Jeremy Johannesen

Materials List

- 3.5 yards ¾ oz. Ripstop Nylon - Red
- 3.5 yards ¾ oz. Ripstop Nylon - Blue
- 3.5 yards ¾ oz. Ripstop Nylon - White
- 1.5 oz. Ripstop Nylon - for edging material

This 8 foot Bol is created by joining a number of triangles together to form a series of hexagons, half hexagons and pentagons.

Begin by creating the two triangle patterns, one triangle is used to assemble hexagons; the other is used to assemble pentagons. Poster-board or tag-board works well. See figures one and two for dimensions.

Hexagons

Using hexagon pattern, cut the following:

15 Red / 15 White / 15 Blue triangles

If you desire to have stars on your inner blue panels, this is the easiest time to applique those into place. Applique a star onto the center of five of the blue panels.

Join triangles together by overlapping material by ¼” and sewing using a zig-zag or triple zig-zag stitch. Use figure 3 as reference for color panel orientation. Use the pieces to create five complete hexagons.

Using the same method of ¼” overlap, join the remaining pieces to create five half hexagons. Use figure 4 as reference for the color panel orientation.



Figure 1

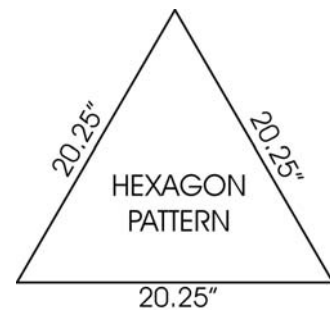


Figure 2

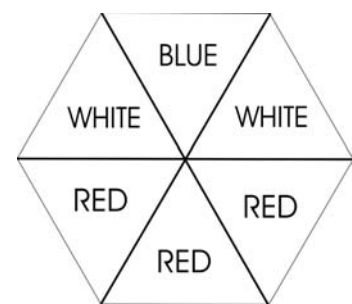


Figure 3

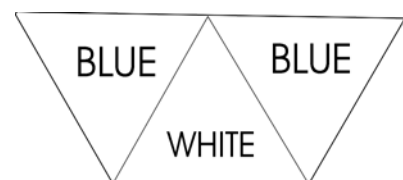


Figure 4

Pentagons

Next, use pentagon pattern to cut the following:
10 Red / 10 White / 5 Blue triangles

Join triangles together by overlapping material by ¼” and sewing using a zig-zag or triple zig-zag stitch. Use figure 5 as reference for color panel orientation. Use the pieces to create five complete pentagons.

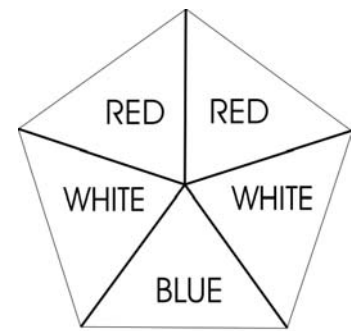


Figure 5

Assembly of Bol

Once all hexagons, half hexagons, and pentagons are completed, begin joining sections to form the bol. See figure 6 for a guide to the orientation for assembly.

Begin with the completed hexagons, with blue panels (with stars) facing toward one another. Join white panel to white panel. This will create a pentagon shaped opening in between the pieces. These pieces are also joined using a simple ¼” overlap and zig-zag stitch.

Next add a pentagon into the V-shaped space between each hexagon. Join each red panel to the adjoining red panel.

Next add a half hexagon into the space between each pentagon. Join the white panels on the pentagons to the blue panels on the half hexagons.

At this point the Bol has now taken its complete half sphere form.

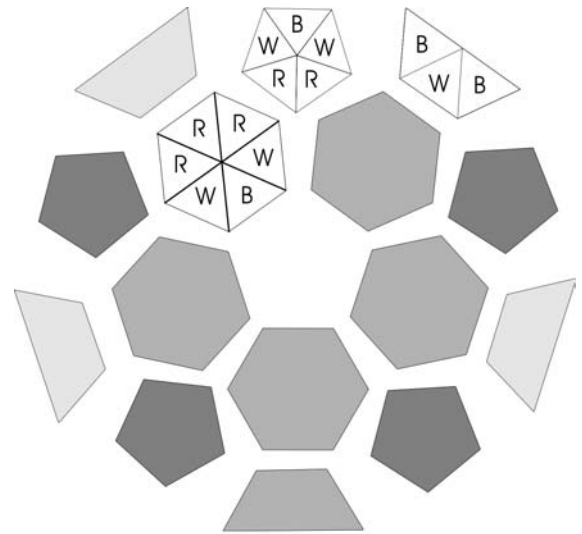


Figure 6

Finishing the Bol

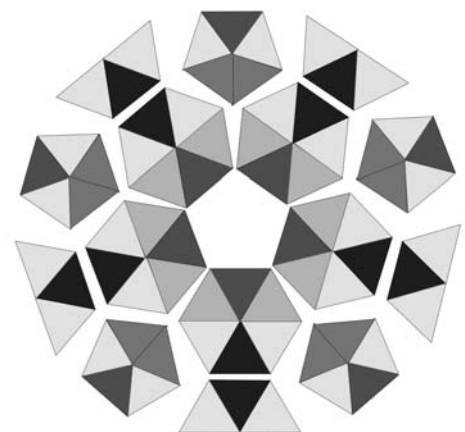
Cut strips of 1.5 ounce ripstop two inches wide. Fold this onto itself in quarters, creating a double folded edge binding material. Use this material to edge bind the entire outer rim of the Bol, as well as the inner edge of the central opening of the Bol. This is accomplished by folding the binding over the edge of the material and sewing over it with a zig-zag stitch.

Cut strips of 1.5 ounce ripstop one inch wide. Fold this onto itself in thirds, creating a 1/3 wide strip. Zig-zag stitch down the center of this strip. Hot cut this sewn strip into four inch pieces. Fold these pieces in half and place them with a one inch overlap of the edge of the Bol, one at the intersection of each individual triangle. These are the bridle points and there will be 15 of them.

Bridle

There are fifteen bridle legs. We have used 150 pound dacron line for bridle lines.

Cut fifteen pieces thirteen feet long. Mark six inches in from each end on each piece. Fold the line on this mark and tie an overhand loop or figure eight knot. Connect each bridle line to the reinforcement strips on the outer edge of the Bol. Bring these lines together to a single toe point. This can be accomplished by simple joining all the lines in an overhand loop or securing each line to a carabiner.



Note: Final figure showing complete layout by Bill Coons.