



Easy Peasy Canister Tutorial

We Lab Gals do love our coffee and subsequently end up with many coffee cans. When I needed new canisters for the Lab to hold and organize our sewing tools, I knew just what to do. The 70's version of this project involved soup cans and contact paper. My more modern twist is to use laminated cotton and oilcloth instead. I used both coffee and soup cans. Here's how to DIY that thang:



1. Grab some empty cans, peel off the labels, wash them well, and make sure there are no sharp edges. If there are, just push them down and smooth them out with a screwdriver or a dowel. Wear some work gloves for safety in that step to avoid sliced fingers!

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2.



With a tape measure, measure the exact height of the can between the top and bottom ridge and the circumference of the can plus 1" overlap. Then cut out the piece of laminated cotton for each can you want to cover. Oilcloth would work really well also.

3. Place some Scotch double stick tape alongside the top and bottom ridges all around the can and then a vertical strip from top to bottom. Run the tape along one edge of the laminated cotton on the wrong side of the fabric. Place the edge of the laminate/oilcloth with no tape on it against that vertical strip of tape on the can, carefully centering between the top and bottom ridges of the can. Then, just roll the can on the table until you reach the end of the laminate/oilcloth and stick it down to overlap where you began.



4. It's hard to predict how long double stick tape would hold the fabric in place and I wanted these to last, so I added some velvet ribbons to the top of the can to hold it all in place long term. I cut the ribbon with that same 1" overlap and used a dab of hot glue along the ribbon and a dab to end it. They are holding up beautifully, months later.



Could that be easier? Of course, I had to bust out my trusty label maker and organize what was going in which can. I was thinking an awesome gift for many of my creative pals would be to fill the can with Sharpies pens (who doesn't love a brand new set of Sharpies?) or even use them as a vase for flowers that could be used as a canister later. I'm sure you can think of lots of uses for this cute little can, no?