Measurements used for this babynest are individual and can be adjusted. This pattern can be printed on a 1:10 scale.

Material needed for one babynest
- 2 m x fabric width of soft cotton fabric
- 2 polyester pillows from Ikea or other type of wadding
- Approx. 2 m of drawstring
- Approx. 2 m of bias tape
- Sewing thread in matching color, pins, scissors, marking tool

Step-by-step tutorial

1. Start by drafting a pattern with your preferred measurements. Bear in mind that babies grow fast so it’s good to have some extra space lengthwise.
2. Trace your pattern onto the fabric. You’ll need two identical pieces to make out the top and bottom of the nest.
3. Before cutting out the first piece, fold the fabric on the length to adjust the sides to each other and trim away any excessive parts.
4. When the first piece is cut, use it to pin onto the second fabric. You can mark the outer lines by using a dressmaker’s carbon and a tracing wheel, or you can trace them lightly with a regular ball pen.
5. Pin the pieces right side towards right side and sew together with a 1 cm seam allowance. Leave half of the bottom curves and the space between them open.
6. Cut notches in the seam allowance, with 1-2 cm intervals, where the edges are rounded. This makes the curves smoother when folding the fabric right side out.
7. Turn the fabric right side out and pin the bias tape along the seam and sew one side with a 3-4 mm seam allowance.

8. Before sewing the second side of the bias tape you can insert the drawstring underneath so that you don’t have to thread it in afterwards. This, however, requires the bias tape to be wide enough to give room for the presser foot between its edge and the drawstring. Just make sure you secure the ends of the drawstring at the bottom of the nest by using a cord stopper or by simply pinning them to the outside, otherwise they’ll retreat back into the drawstring canal when you continue working and you’ll have a hassle getting them out.

9. An optional detail is to add a handle on each side of the nest to facilitate transportation. If you want a simple hanging arrangement for easy stowaway you can use a small piece to make a loop at the top of the nest.

10. Next up is padding the bottom. Either you cut out an oval shaped mattress piece (in this case 40 x 70 cm) from a padding roll or you can use loose wadding. Place an as even as possible layer of wadding inside the nest, approx. 13-14 cm from the outer edges and then sew 15 cm from the edge. Make sure there’s wadding where you’re sewing and be careful – it’s very thick and the needle might break.

11. Sew shut the bottom of the nest with a 0,5 cm seam allowance. Don’t worry if there’s wadding sticking out at the bottom, you’ll be covering this part with the bias tape anyway.

12. Thread the rest of the wadding into the outer canal. Pin the inner sides of the bottom part and sew together with a 0,5 cm seam allowance.
13. Pin and sew on the last piece of the bias tape from the drawstring opening and along the bottom of the nest to the other side.

14. Pull the drawstring tighter and ruffle the nest, creating an oval shape. And you’re done!