

## Sewn Grommets

By Melvin Beattie - Manuel Lisa Party - Montana Brigade



Cut a 2" or 3" square of material. Note that we are going to start working on the top of the tarp.



Draw a circle in the middle the size of your grommet hole.



Pin, tack or staple your grommet "square" into position on your tarp and sew around the drawn circle.



Cut or punch your grommet hole through the "square" and the tarp, being careful not to cut sewn threads.



Hole punched with sewing around the grommet hole. This is sewn and punched through both pieces of material.



Now you are going to pull the square through to the other side of the tarp. Start by grabbing on a corner and pulling it through to the underside.



Pull the entire "square" through the hole. You are turning this square inside-out.



Now you can see the square is pulled inside out and only a few of the threads are showing.



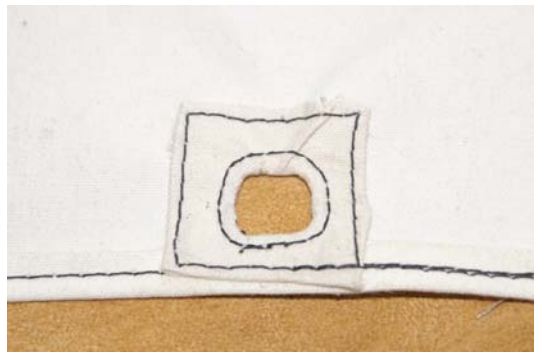
Now take a "fid" or tapered piece of wood, burnish and smooth out the grommet hole.



You may now make a "top-stitch" around the grommet hole to further define and strengthen the hole,



Now trim up your square on the underside of your tarp.



Fold under the edges of your "square" and sew around the outside. Your grommet is finished.



One way to use this grommet properly, is to loop a rope over a stick and pull the rope through the grommet.



Tension on the rope keeps the stick tight. This grommet and stick “trick” pulls equally on the tarp and does not place undue stress on the tarp or threads, as sewn loops do.