







7. Use short-grain brown rice to fill the channels. Position the alligator so that the open end of each channel is at the top. I used a funnel, putting small amounts so that the rice does not jam but fall to the bottom of each channel. (I used a flat container under the alligator while filling, so that stray rice kernels were contained). Fill each channel to 3/4's full. The alligator will naturally roll into itself as you fill each channel. Use this feature to your advantage, rolling it one way and then back to access to each opening.

8. Tamp down the rice in the channels and proceed to fill each channel to within three quarter's (3/4") of an inch from the top. Using strong thread, do a small basting stitch along the length of the alligator, making sure that there aren't any kernels that might be struck by the sewing machine needle when you machine stitch to finish.

9. Using a short zigzag stitch along the edge where the basting stitch was done. Fold over the excess fabric and zigzag again.

10. Heating up your alligator. Roll it tightly, placing it in the microwave oven at high for 2 minutes with the 'seam' on the bottom. Reverse the roll and heat for two and a half (2 1/2) Minutes more.