Leather or fabric-covered lead shot beanbags are such a luxury, but for a lighter-weight, less expensive alternative try filling washed Tyvek with polypropylene pellets. You can make them any shape and size. We made nice circular beanbags in various sizes for our photographers so that they have good, flexible/versatile supports that don’t distract from the object.

**tyvek bean bags**

**MATERIALS:** washed Tyvek, resin pellets, polyethylene bags, sewing machine or heat sealer

1. Wash your thin soft-wrap Tyvek in the washing machine on a warm cycle, then dry on a low heat setting.
2. Decide what size and shape bean bag you want, then cut your Tyvek.
3. With the slick side facing in, sew or heat seal 3 of the 4 sides together, then turn inside out. The slick side will be the side facing out.
4. If you used a sewing machine for your bean bag sleeve, just fill the bag ½ to 2/3 full and sew the 4th side closed. If you heat seal the sleeve, use a polyethylene liner bag for the pellets and heat seal the liner bag closed. Poke a couple of holes in the plastic bag to let the air out, helping the bag to be more flexible.
5. Put the pellet bag into the heat-sealed sleeve and machine or hand sew the open end closed.
As seen in NMAI Moving episode entitled THE APPLICATION OF CYCLODODECANE AND EASY SUPPORTS: Good Tips 1 & 2.

bean bags


● **POLYETHYLENE OR POLYPROPYLENE RESIN PELLETS,** Available from PolyOne Distribution, contact Joan Barton, sales representative, 845-566-3896, joanbarton@polyone.com

● **POLYETHYLENE TUBING,** Available from Westlake Plastics Company, West Lenni Road, P.O. Box 127, Lenni, PA 19052, www.westlakeplastics.com

● **SMALL HIGH DENSITY POLY BAGS,** Available from Associated Bag Company, 400 West Boden Street, Milwaukee, WI 53207, www.associatedbag.com


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