Made-to-measure mosquito net

Low-tech with Refugees - Low-tech & Réfugiés

https://wiki.lowtechlab.org/wiki/Moustiquaire_sur_mesure/en

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Difficulté **Facile**

Durée **6 heure(s)**

Coût **7 EUR (€)**

Description

Had enough of mosquitoes? We'll show you step-by-step how to make a mosquito net to fit your window size and keep them out. It's easy to use and can be assembled and dismantled in less than 30 seconds.

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Introduction

Mosquitoes are present mainly in summer, and prefer **hot, humid climates**.
Different species of mosquitoes appear depending on the region, and the most famous: the tiger mosquito, is present almost everywhere in the world. It's hard to avoid, because **they are attracted by everything our bodies emit**: the CO2 from our breath, our heat, and our body odours (sweat, breath, etc.).
If we recommend protecting ourselves against them, it's because **mosquitoes can be extremely dangerous** as vectors of diseases, some serious, others fatal (yellow fever, chikungunya, dengue fever, etc.).
They are most common in warm countries close to the hemisphere: Africa, Central and South America and South Asia.

You can also make a screen for a door, but you'll need to use longer materials depending on the size of your door

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Matériaux

- Mosquito netting tulle (1m x 1.5m)
- Fabric (6m x 8cm)
- Soft Velcro (1m x 2.5cm)
- Velcro adhesive hook (1m x 2.5cm)
- Thin strip of wood (1.5m)
- Linseed oil

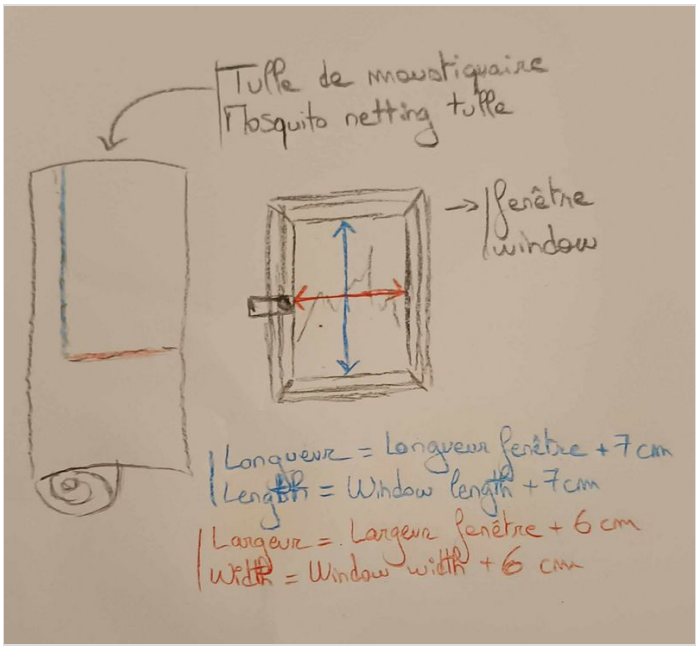
Outils

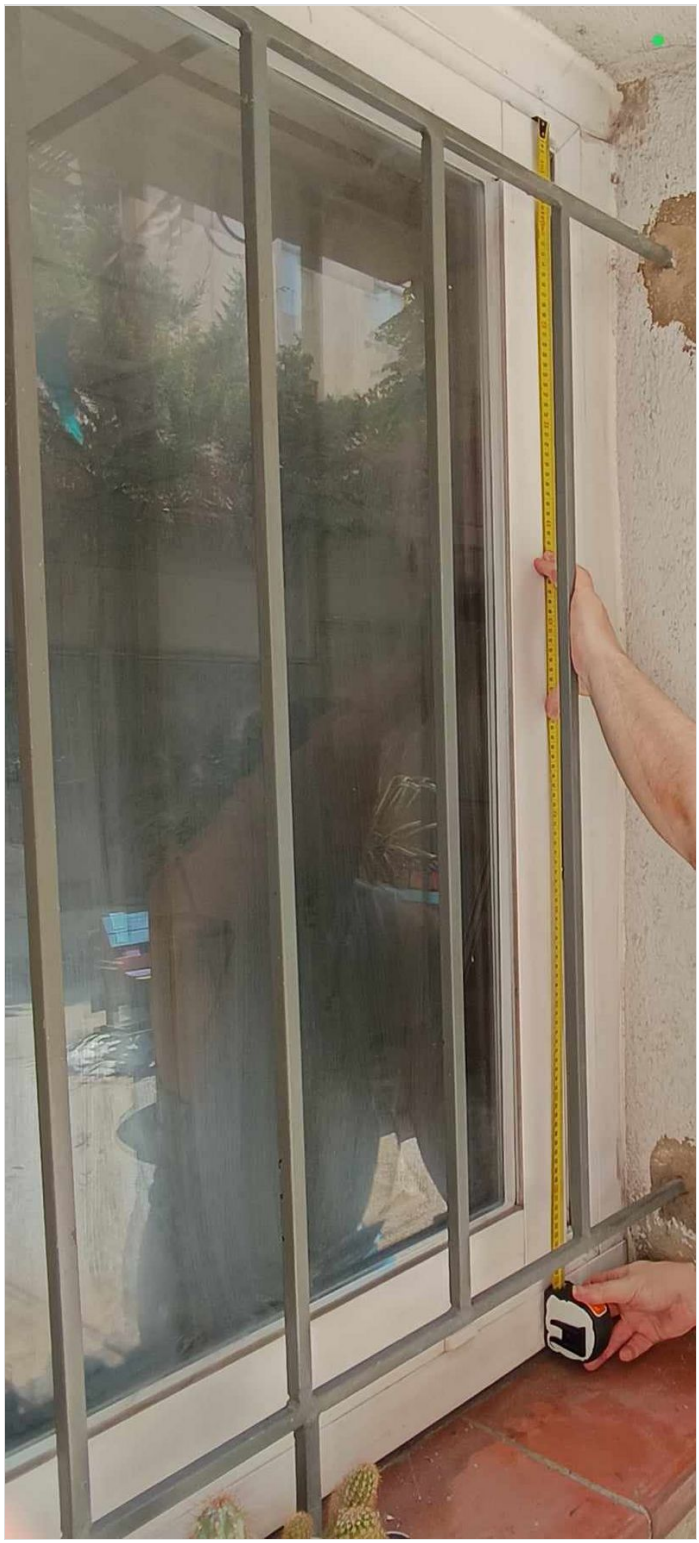
- Sewing machine
- Sewing equipment (spools of thread, scissors, pins, ruler, pencil)
- Sewing tape measure
- Wall stapler
- Brush or cloth

Étape 1 - Window measurements

First of all, you need to **measure the size of your window**. You need to measure the **empty space**, i.e. the **smallest opening**, where you can put your hand.
To do this, use a tape measure to measure the **height/length** and **width** of the window, as shown in the diagram.

Measuring your window is the essential step in the tutorial, without it you won't be able to make a mosquito net

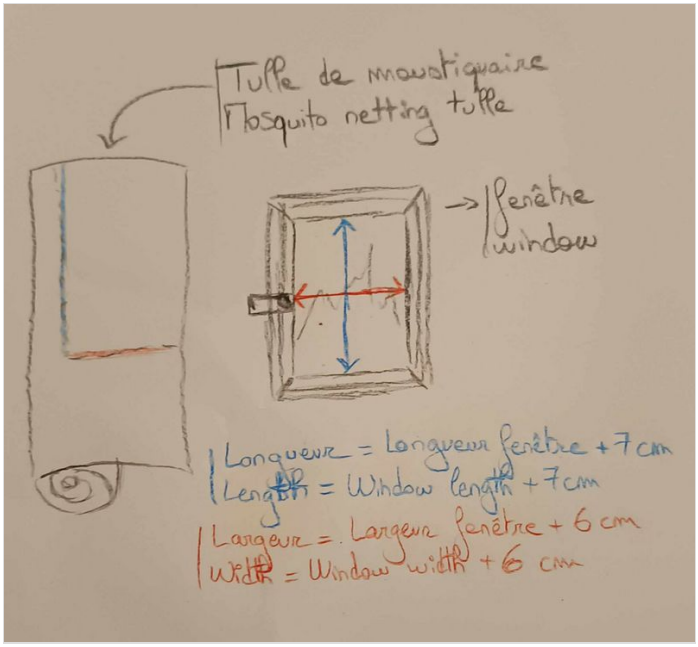

Tulle de moustiquaire
Mosquito netting tulle
Fenêtre
window
Longueur = Longueur fenêtre + 7 cm
Length = Window length + 7 cm
Largeur = Largeur fenêtre + 6 cm
Width = Window width + 6 cm

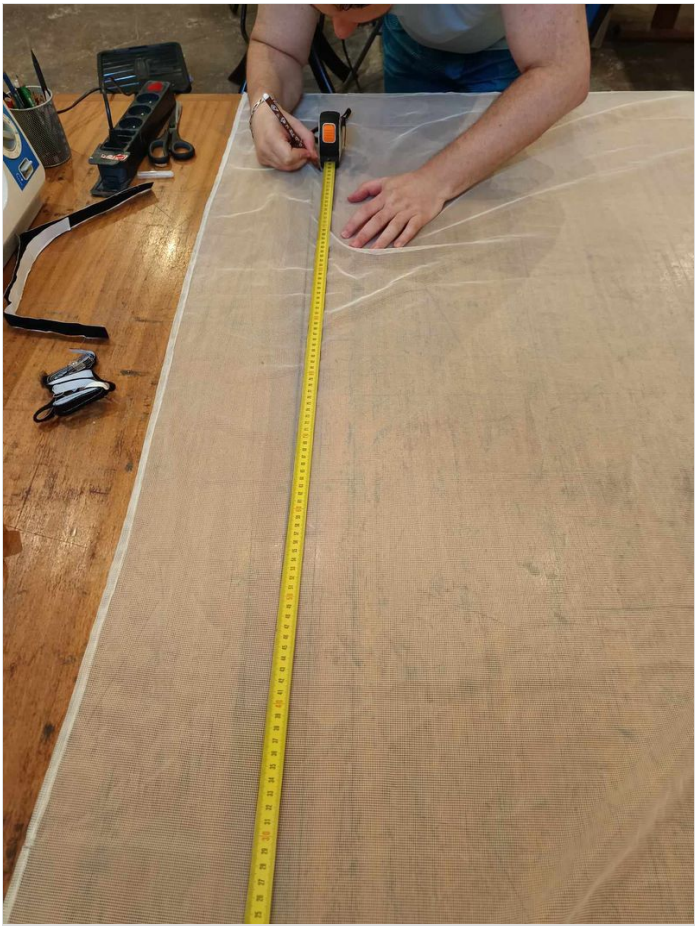


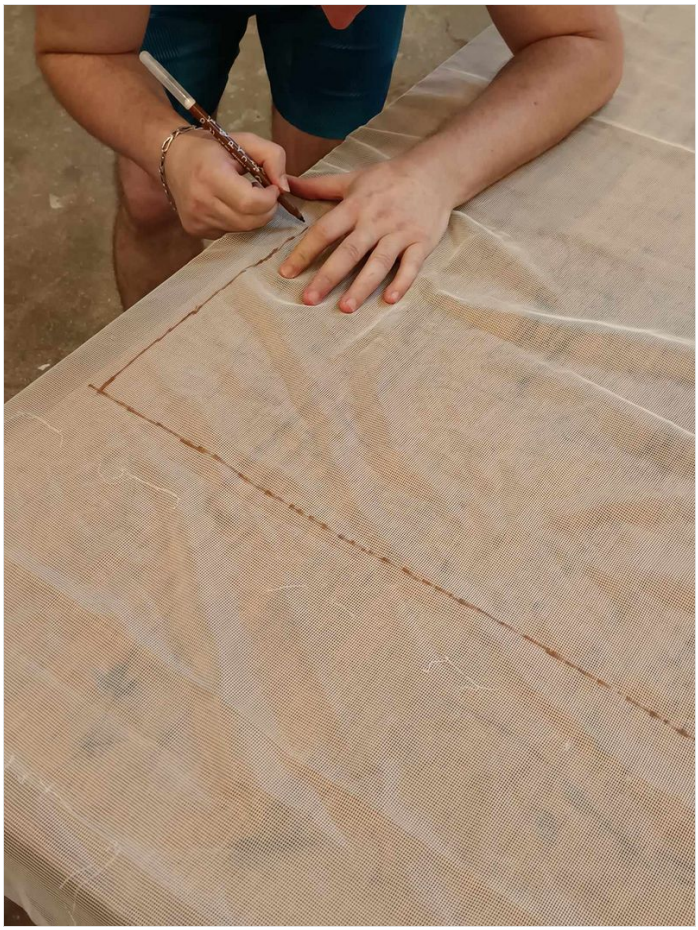
Étape 2 - The cut-out: Mosquito netting tulle

Using a pencil and a ruler/metre, trace a **rectangle** on the tulle as follows:
- Width = Width of window + 6 cm
- Length = Window length/height + 7 cm

Cut out the rectangle using the scissors.







Étape 3 - Cutting: Fabric strips

Using the pencil and ruler/metre, trace **4 strips** in the fabric:

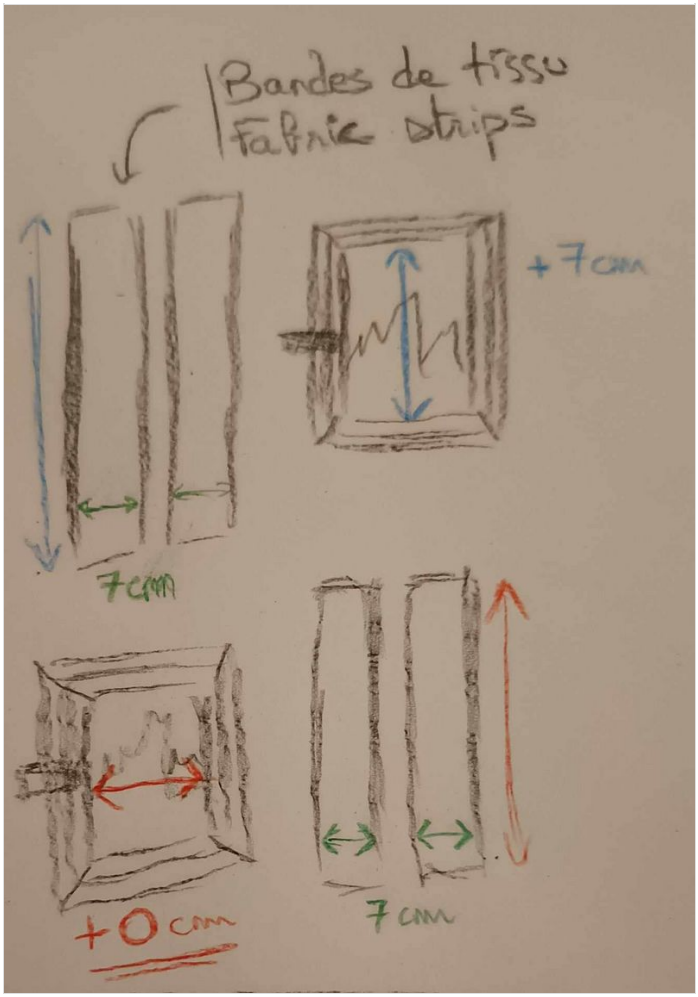
- **2 strips for the height of the window**:

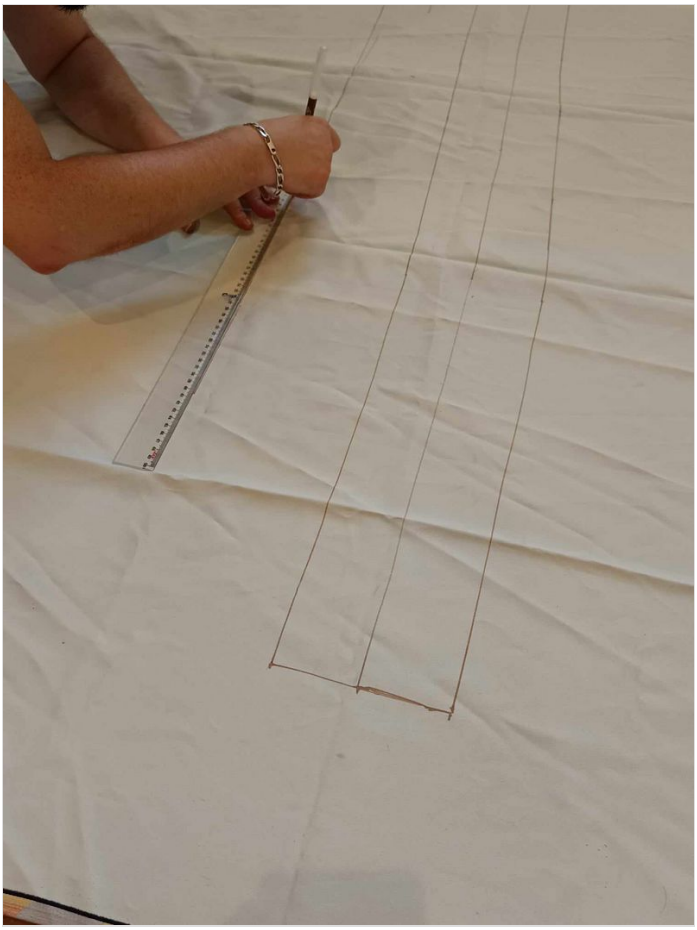
- Width = 7 cm
- Length = Window length/height + 7 cm

- **2 strips for the width of the window**:

- Width = 7 cm
- Length = Width of window

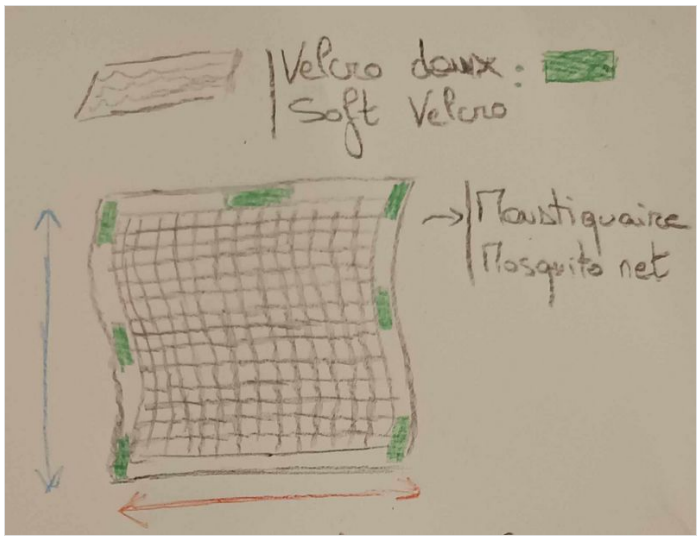
Pay close attention to the measurements. To do this, take your time and reread this step several times


Bandes de tissu
Fabric strips
+7cm
7cm
+0cm
7cm



Étape 4 - Cutting: Velcro

Cut each strip of Velcro (soft and hooked) into **7 pieces of 14 cm**. They will be glued in strategic places so that the mosquito net is taut.



Étape 5 - The sewing

Tulle + Fabrics

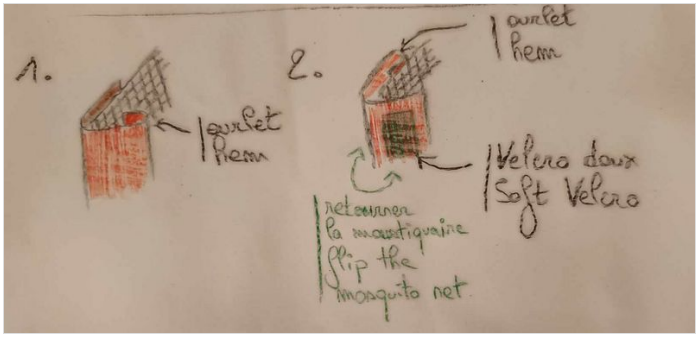
Start by pinning the tulle and fabric strips together. To do this, hem each side of the mosquito netting tulle with the fabric, folding the strip over to make a pretty hem.

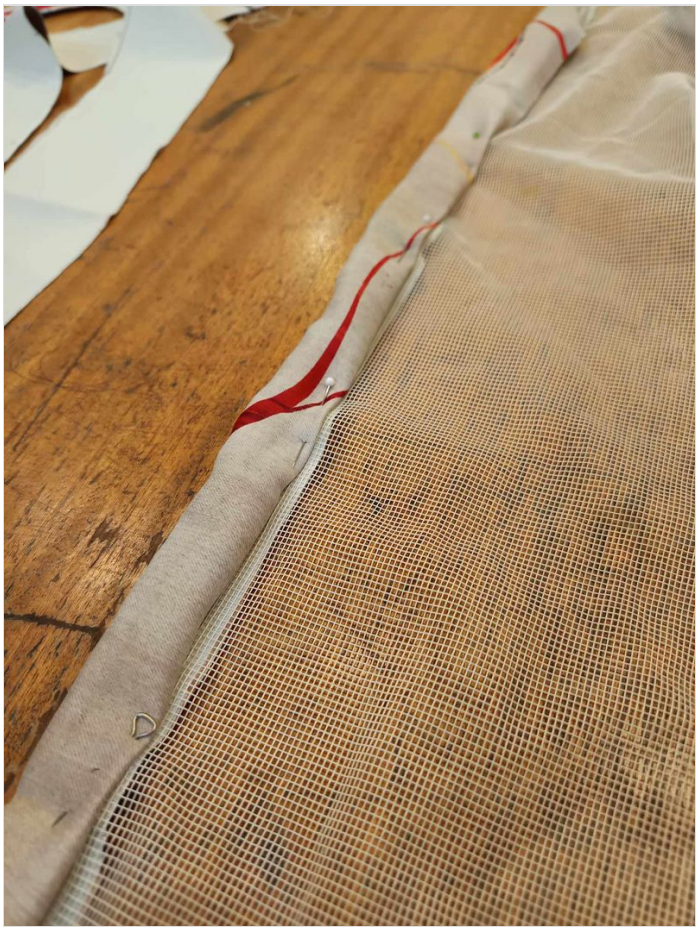
> The fabric is there to ensure that our mosquito net will be strong, even after several uses.

All you have to do is sew the tulle to the fabric, along 2 lines, to secure the whole thing.

Tulle/Fabric + Velcro

The Velcro is then placed on the side opposite the hem (see diagram).
It should be placed on the 4 corners of the screen and in the centre of the left, right and top sides.
You can then sew the Velcro along 2 lines to secure it.





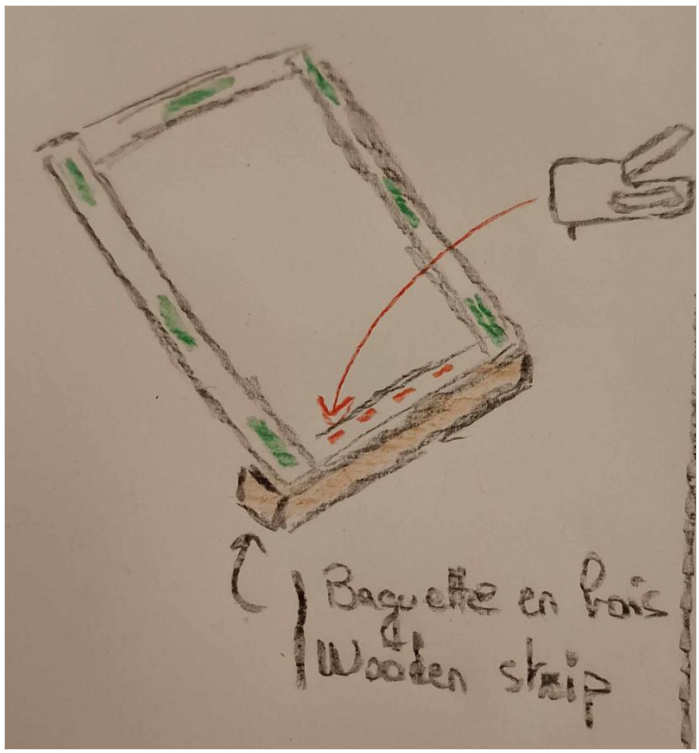
Étape 6 - Stapling the wooden strip

> This step is not compulsory, but the wooden strip will make the mosquito net more taut and will be useful for storing it (simply wrap the mosquito net around it)

Place the wooden strip on the side that represents the bottom of your mosquito net (the one without the Velcro in the centre). It should be flush with the fabric.

> The wooden strip must be on the side opposite the velcro

You can then use the wall stapler to fix this strip along the entire length of the bottom of the screen (1 staple every 10 cm is sufficient).

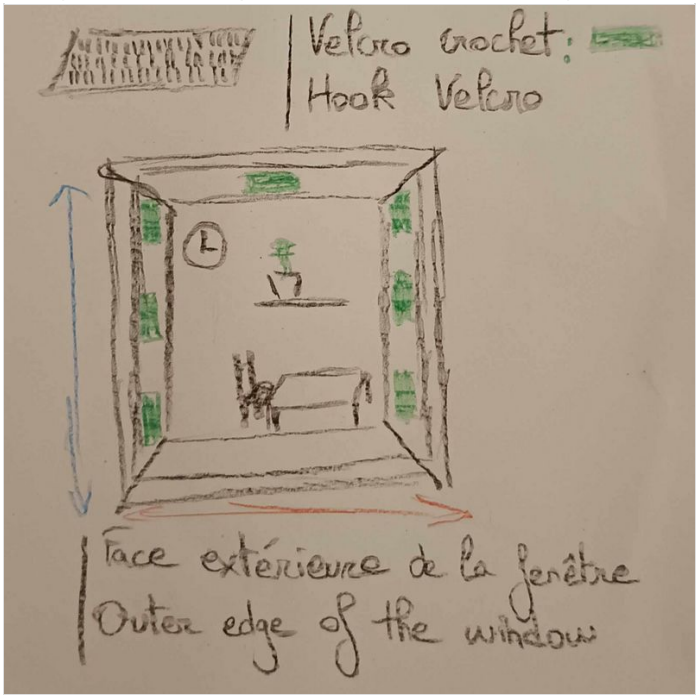


Étape 7 - The set up

First, wipe the outside edge of your window with a sponge (it needs to be clean so that the Velcro hooks stick well).
Next, stick the Velcro hook onto the outer edge of the window (see diagram). To do this, peel off the protective tape from the Velcro and stick it on.

> You could also glue the mosquito net to the inside sill, but then you won't be able to open the window when the mosquito net is in place

. Position the cut strips as shown in the photo, so that they face the soft Velcro strips once the mosquito net is in place.

> When you position the Velcro hook strips on the windowsill, remember to space them slightly apart so that the mosquito net is taut and flattened at the edges.

Finally, attach the mosquito net to the Velcro hook and you're done!