

CONSTRUCTION OF BAG

1. Iron all battings to pieces (1) to (7) – NOT LININGS
2. Sew handles, whichever method you prefer. I iron one edge over batting approximately half an inch, then fold other side edge over a quarter inch and press it up and over the half inch one and stitch it down. I then do another line of stitching on the other edge to match).
3. Sew pockets, front and lining with right sides together, leaving a gap for turning. Sew along top of pockets once they are turned. Quilt all three pockets.
4. Quilt main bag piece (5) with just the batting ironed/attached.
5. Place pockets onto (5), level with what will be the bottom of the bag – see diagram – and sew in place. Also put pocket (7) onto lining piece (as on previous piece (5)).
6. Put handles on main piece (5) above pockets and approximately 4.5 inches from the edge, then centre piece (1) over handle (which should be facing downwards – I tuck the handle into the pocket to keep it out the way) and sew, trapping the handle between the two pieces. Do this for both sides of the bag. Do a line of top-stitching to hold handles firm.
7. Pin zip, face down along top of main piece and place lining piece (1) over zip too, right side down, and stitch .25” in on either end to allow manoeuvre of fabric when sewing bag together. Topstitch zip, making sure lining is pulled away from the zip on the underside, away from the zipper teeth and approximately 1” in at beginning of topstitching.
8. Making sure zip is open, turn whole piece inside out and stitch lining sides, leaving gap on one side of 5/6” to allow for turning the bag. Centre side seam with bottom of bag * and stitch, making the bottom of the bag square.

9. Do same with main bag, omitting gap.

10. Sew tabs and pin to side seams, with seam matching side seam of bag, ie, centred.

11. Place zipper panel and sides together, snipping .25" where sides turn to help with the fit. Sew with lining similarly placed and altogether.

12. Turn bag right side out through the gap left in the lining. This is where you hope you have remembered to leave the zip undone!

13. Sew up gap in lining and your bag is done.