



This bag has been designed with access to the inside of the bags construction materials allowing you to place pin badges on the outside of your bag without having pins or backs on the inside of your bag snagging your yarn. Access to the inner workings is via a long horizontal zip in one side that looks like it could be a pocket.

Materials required:

1 metre of Outer fabric. Claire recommends a heavy weight fabric such as upholstery fabrics, denim or canvas. A quilting cotton could be used but it may be better to interface it to stiffen it a little. Alternatively you can cut up old pairs of jeans or curtains for this project.

1 metre of lining fabric. 100% quilting cotton works well for this but you can use any weight fabric. Be careful your fabric does not have any stretch in it or is too light weight though as it may stretch out of shape compared to the outer.

4 metres of 5-6mm cord

14" regular zipper

Cutting out:

Cut 5 x outer panels measuring 12inches x 12inches

Cut 5 x lining panels measuring 12inches x 12inches

Cut 2 x zipper tabs from your outer fabric measuring 3" x 3" (if you want your zip tabs to blend into your lining then cut them from your lining fabric)

Cut 1 strip 12" wide by 3" deep in your outer fabric (this is your internal contrast panel)

Making up instructions:

- 1) Starting with your lining take 1 square and cut it in half widthways into 2 x 12" wide by 6" deep pieces. (this is the panel we will insert the zip into).
- 2) Press both zip tabs in half wrong sides together.
- 3) Place raw edges of one zip tab along the closed end of the zipper. With the folded edge facing in towards the pull. Sew with a 1/4" seam allowance down the raw edges
- 4) Press back and top stitch down close to the seam.
- 5) Measure from the tab 10" along the zip and mark with a removable pen (this will be your stitch line).
- 6) Measure another 1/4" out towards the pull and mark again.
- 7) **Open the zip up**
- 8) Place the raw edge of your second tab on the outer line with the folded edge facing the other zip tab you have just sewn.
- 9) Sew with a 1/4" seam allowance down the raw edges.
- 10) Press back and top stitch down.
- 11) Square up both tabs with a rotary cutter or scissors and a ruler so they measure 1" from the zip.
- 12) You should now have 10" of zip with a 1" tab on either end (a final 12" measurement).

- 13) Open your zip half way. Take one of your 12" x 6" strips and lay it right sides together along the top edge of the zip, pin in place.
- 14) Sew with a zipper foot close to the zip teeth stopping when you reach the zipper pull. With the needle down, lift the presser foot, pull the zipper past the foot and lower it back down again. Continue to sew to the end.
- 15) Press your fabric open and repeat steps 12 – 14 with the other side of the zip and the other 12" x 6" panel.
- 16) If you measure your finished panel it will measure approx. 12" x 11". We need it to measure 12" square so we are going to add a contrast panel to the bottom edge of our panel.
- 17) Take your 12" x 3" piece and place right sides together along the bottom edge.
- 18) Stitch in place with a ¼" seam allowance, press from the right side.
- 19) Square up your panel from the top edge with a rotary cutter or scissors so it measures 12" square.
- 20) Flip your panel to the back and cut off any excess fabric from the back of your zip tabs to remove bulk.
- 21) Choose a square of lining fabric to be your bags base. We are now going to join all 4 sides to this base in a cross formation as follows:
- 22) Take your feature panel and line this up right sides together with any of the 4 sides of your base panel. Stitch with a ¼" seam allowance, starting and stopping ¼" in from the edge of the fabric. (i.e. leaving ¼" unsewn either end) remember to use a back tack to secure your sewing at the beginning and the end.
- 23) Take another panel and attach to the opposite side of your base panel in the same way.
- 24) Repeat on the opposite two sides, attaching your panels right sides together and sewing from 1 seam to the other leaving ¼" unsewn. (This forms a Y seam on each corner and will make sewing up the sides easier).
- 25) Place the top edges of the bag right sides together and sew up all four sides to form a box shape.
- 26) Put the lining to one side and take your outer pieces.
- 27) Choose your base and repeat steps as above to sew all 4 side panels to the base to form a cross.
- 28) You will not be sewing all 4 sides up in the same way as the lining. 2 will be sewn from top to bottom and the other 2 will have a space left to form a channel for your cord
- 29) Measure 1.5" down from the top edge on one corner and mark with a removable pen or a pin. Measure 1" down from this mark and mark again. Repeat on the piece of fabric that would be sewn to it if you placed the side seams right sides together.
- 30) Lay it back on the table and repeat step 28 on what will become the opposite side seam.
- 31) Sew the two seams you have not marked from top to bottom as per your lining.
- 32) Sew the two seams you have marked from the top edge to the pin and then from the second pin to the bottom of your bag. This leaves a 1" opening in each of the opposite side seams.
- 33) Press your seams in the area of the hole open. (You do not need to do this on all seams just where the opening is).
- 34) Top stitch round the opening from the right side in a rectangle shape, close to the edge of the fabric. (This forms a stronger button hole type opening and stops the raw edges fraying out when you thread the cord through).
- 35) OPEN THE ZIP.
- 36)
- 37) Turn your lining fabric in the right way and leave the outer in the wrong way.
- 38) Place the lining inside the outer so that the two bags are now right sides together.
- 39) Clip or pin round the outside edges, starting by lining up the 4 side seams and then filling in the gaps to ensure the fabric is equally distributed.
- 40) Sew around the top edge with a ¼" seam allowance.
- 41) Turn the bag in the right way through the zip.
- 42) Press the top edge and 4" down towards the base to ensure a crisp neat edge and no wrinkles in the lining.
- 43) Pin all the way around the bag in the middle of the channel to ensure no internal wrinkles.

- 44) Change your threads if required to match the colours of your outer and lining.
- 45) Place your needle at the top of one of your button holes in line with the top stitching you have done. Place tape on the edge of the bag so you can keep an accurate seam allowance as you sew around.
- 46) Repeat the above step this time starting at the bottom edge of your hole.
- 47) Cut your cord into 2 equal pieces. Thread your cords by taking 1 through a hole and all the way round and back out of the same hole. Tie the ends together.
- 48) Take the second through the opposite hole, all the way round and back out of the same hole. Tie the ends together.
- 49) Your bag is complete.

Please do not distribute or sell this pattern. Remember it accompanies the online video tutorial and as such does not go into full detail of each step.

You are welcome to sell bags you have made using this pattern, but please credit Beautiful Things and the designer Claire Mackaness if you advertise their sale online.