

NEXT STATE Bag of Scraps Pattern

This is a fun little sewing project with a generous size to the bag. You can create many different versions of the bag by adding new seams, trims and extra pockets! Sewn as is this bag makes wonderful use of scrap fabric and you can create a clashing or tonal look.

Before you start

- Print the pattern on A1 and be sure not to scale to fit to a page. Check the accuracy of the pattern scale and measure the 10cm square.
- You can also self draft this pattern, the shapes are all rectangular so you can carefully rule up fabric or first to paper accurate shapes with out the print out. You can print the pattern as A4 and use it as a guide to draft the pieces.
- Select fabrics that are between 180-280gsm. Sewing similar weights is easier. You can go heavier on a the straps (P1) and use a canvas up to 350gsm
- The bag is fully lined and gets extra strength through this.

Sewing tips

- All seams are 1cm allowance except the pocket (P6) where the opening is folded over.
- The strap (P1) also has a longer seam where it connects to the bag for extra strength.

Bag construction

1. Make sure you have all pattern pieces cut out and ready to sew, clearly labeled.
2. P1 Make the strap first by ironing in a 1cm fold on each edge, fold in half and top stitch. If you are using a cotton for the strap under 250gsm you should fuse the fabric to create a strong strap. Once folded edge stitch the strap.
3. P6 Press the pocket hem over 1cm and then fold and press again a further 3cm. Stitch the pocket opening down. While you are working on the pocket and after the stitching press the long edges towards the back 1cm.
4. P3, P4, P5 Sew these panels together to form the outside and the lining of the bag. If you want the side seams to match mirror the fronts and backs.
5. P6 Pin the pocket into position onto the front of the bag and top stitch in place. Using two stitch lines to reinforce the pocket.
6. P2 Sew the pattern pieces the sits at the bag opening to the fronts and backs of the outer and lining.
7. Sew the hem of the front and back together and then the side seams.
8. For the lining only sew the edges together. The hem will be used to turn the lining through.
9. Pin the straps to the front of the bag. Slide the lining on top so the right sides in are facing each other and the straps are in between. Ensure you aren't sewing the straps twisted.
10. Sew the bag opening and the into place. Doing a 1cm seam allowance, when you come to the straps run your machine in the same straight line backwards and forwards over the strap to secure.
11. You are nearly there!
12. Turn the lining through the bag and press the bag opening flat. Sew and edge stitch to reinforce the straps on the bag opening.
13. We are now going to close up the lining at the base of the bag. Pull the lining out of resting on the bag and press the opening in at 1cm to the wrong side. Pin the open ends together. Stitch a 5mm edge stitch to close up the bag
14. Enjoy your new bag!

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- Pocket Construction



- Side seam matching



- Stitch at the bottom of the lining



- Making the straps



- Pocket details