



# EMILY BAG

## TUTORIAL

finished dimensions of the bag:  
12 ½" h x 14 ½" w (excluding handles)



### ***Fabric Requirements:***

- Main fabric: 1- 1½ yds of cotton  
(depends on whether you want the inside and outside pockets to be made of the same fabric or a contrasting fabric)
- Contrasting fabric: 1 yd (maybe?) cotton for trims like binding, pockets etc.
- Lining 1 - 1½ yds of cotton to complement the main fabric  
(depends on the number of pockets and your personal preference for binding etc.)  
(On one of my bags I used prequilted cotton and it added a nice amount of “stability” to the bag)
- Iron on fleece 1 yd (to provide “body” to the outside of the bag)
- Medium strength interfacing for the pockets
- Peltex, Stiffy, or another Timtex equivalent to provide firmness
- 88" of 1" webbing** for handles - color does not matter; it will be covered by your choice of fabric
- Embroidery design of your choice - if applicable

## **CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE *OUTSIDE* OF THE BAG**

### **Main bag**

*if non-directional:* Cut 1: 14" h x 16" w **on fold**

*if directional:* Cut 2: 15" h x 16" w\*

\*The difference is that you are trying to make sure the pattern of the main fabric is running in the right direction. You will sew a ½" seam on the bottom and then continue with the pattern the same as for the non-directional.

### **Fusible Fleece**

Cut 1: 14" h x 16" w (on fold)

### **Outside Pocket (LARGE)**

Cut 1: 9 ½" h x 9 ½" w **on fold**

1: 9 ½" h x 16" w - (NOT on fold) of interfacing

This is the part that will show the most. In the "Kristy" bag shown in the following pages, I chose carefully a part of the fabric that would display a large flower motif. If you want to apply a "label" **over** the pocket, you might need to make the pocket only about 8" high on fold.

### **Outside Pocket (SMALL)**

Cut 1: 6 ½" h x 6" w **on fold**

### **Trim for Pockets (small and large)**

Cut 1: 2" strip of contrasting material the width of the fabric

### **Handles**

Cut 2: 4" strips of contrasting material the width of the fabric

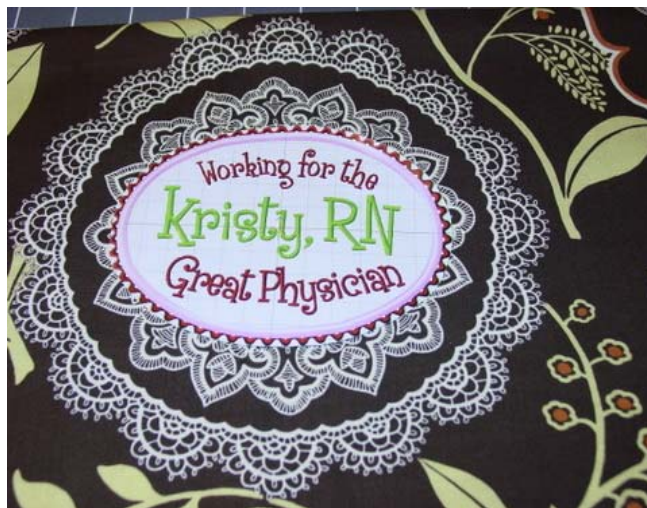
## CONSTRUCTION OF THE **OUTSIDE** OF THE BAG

1. Apply interfacing to the wrong side of the large outside pocket.



2. **Embroider your chosen design onto the RS of the pocket.**

I printed out a template in Embird and placed it where I thought the pattern should go. (I embroidered onto the interfaced half of the pocket - it kept the fabric from being “pulled” by the embroidery.)



Then I centered my embroidery machine needle over the center of the pocket and

stitched out the design.



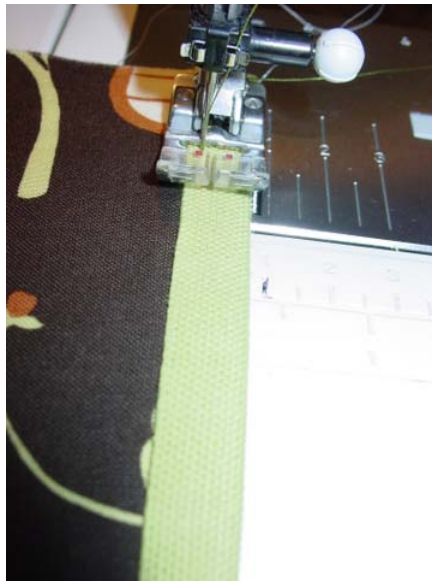
**3. Fold the pocket in half and iron.**

**4. Apply binding to the folded top edge of your pocket, using a 1/4 " seam.**  
Use a 10" long piece of 2" wide binding. Bias strip is nice but not necessary. Since we are not dealing with curves here, I have found that cut on the straight binding does just fine for my totes.



**5. Fold binding over the edge to the back of the pocket, folding under 1/4" to 1/2" of the seam, pin in place, and**

then stitch in place.



**6. Iron pocket;  
pocket  
aside.**

***baste bottom of pocket. Set***



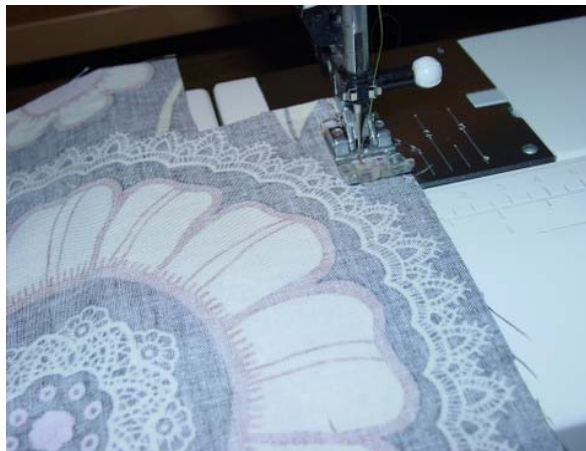
**7. Cut 2" squares out of the folded bottom edges of the main purse fabric. (If you cut on the fold, you**

**would cut out 2x1.5" corners).**

This will eventually become your nicely shaped bottom corners of your bag.



- 8. Sew the front and back of the bag together at the bottom (if you used directional fabric.)**



- 9. Iron open the seam.**



**10. Apply front/back of the bag.**

**fusible fleece to the**



**11. Center the top of the front of the bag, a “tag”)**

**large outside pocket on approximately 2" (or 4" if you need room for**

*from the top of the bag. Pin it in place.*



**12. Baste the pocket in place to the center of the front of the bag.**



**13. Make and apply outside SMALL pocket**



Apply interfacing to wrong side of pocket.  
Fold in half and finish side and bottom edges by serging.  
Fold sides and bottom of pocket in 1/2" inch and apply to outside of bag.  
I like to use a small satin stitch for the first 1/2 inch or so to reinforce that seam and keep it from ripping out.



**13. Make the handles.**

Take a 44" piece of webbing and wrap it with the 4" piece of handle covering.

Fold



over the



last

edge

again and top stitch on both sides.

- 14. Pin one handle to the front of the bag and the other to the back of the bag, being careful to place the sides of the pockets securely under the handles, approximately 3" from the bag's side.***



- 15. Top stitch in place, creating special reenforcement at***

*the top of the handle.*



- 16. Apply your 8" bottom panel to the bottom of your bag.**  
Fold under ½ " on both sides of the panel. Fold the panel in half and iron to mark the center of the bottom panel.



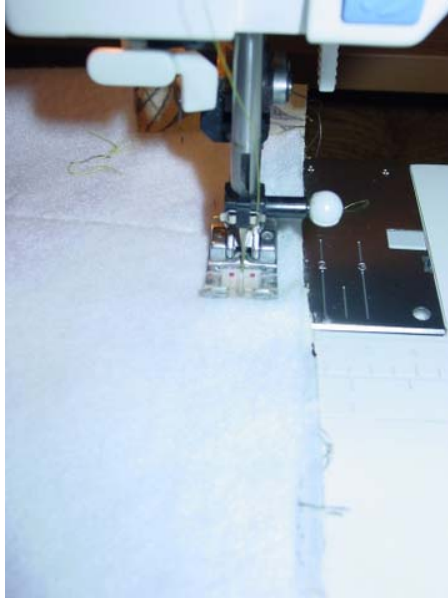
- 17. Place on top of your bottom's bag and stitch in place.**

*NB: Please make sure the center of the panel is directly over the bottom center of the bag, or the sides won't line up correctly when you sew the side seams.*



- 18. Remove excess fabric from the bottom and cut out the corner squares to match the rest of the bag.**

**19. Put the front and back of the bag RST and sew the side seams.**



**20. Create corners and as shown below.**

**sew across the bottom**



**21. Turn inside out and look what you get:**



the **outside** of the

Congratulations,  
bag is done!

Go, celebrate.

