



The Schlep Bag

The Schlep Bag can be made out of quilting cottons, corduroy, denim or wool. We like making it out of cotton best. A Schlep bag is used for anything and everything! This bag is completely reversible, giving you two bags in one!

To start, choose four contrasting fabrics for the outside. Choose four completely different contrasting fabrics for the inside. Choose one fabric for the handles that looks good with both sides. *You will need 1/4 yard of each fabric chosen.*

Cut four 8" squares out of each of the four fabrics for the outside and do the same for the inside. *ie 16 squares inside & 16 outside*

For pieces at the top of each side of your bag, choose one fabric from each side and cut the four squares in half into triangles, plus add a seam allowance of 1/2". In other words, it should be half the square with an added 1/2" on the bias edge.

I use the darkest color for the bottom of the bag (#1), the focus fabric (#3), and two coordinating fabrics (#2 and #4).

Refer to diagram. Start sewing all the #1 blocks together first. Then proceed to sewing all the #2, then #3, then #4 blocks together. Your piece now looks like a windmill.....sew from point where #1's come together to edge of #4...on all four seams.

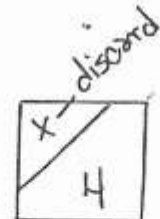
Make up the outside bag and the inside bag and place one inside the other, wrong sides together...then proceed with the handle instructions.

Cut two strips 22" x 4 1/2" for handles. Cut 2 strips of cotton batting or flannel for lining of handles 1 1/2" x 22". Sew fabric handle strips right sides together in a 1/4" seam. Turn right side out and press. Using a large safety pin pull batting (or flannel) lining strips through inside of straps. Top stitch close to edges.

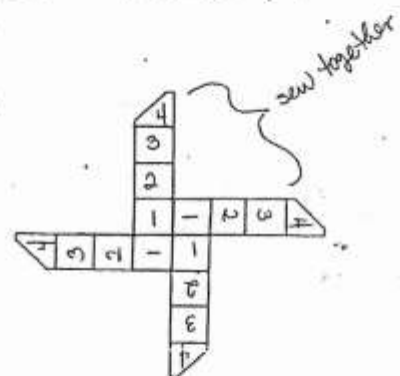
On both upper edges of bag, press under 1/2" being careful to stretch the bias edges. Center ends of handles in middle of the half triangles and top stitch around top of bag. Repeat approximately 1/4" from first row of stitching.

You can make this bag in any size you'd like just by changing the size of the squares. It can be made as small as a lunch sack or as large as a laundry bag! Have fun! If you make more than one, and you'll want to, try adding a block of patchwork or embroidery to your bag.

Thank you to Quilt-a-way in Westminster Station, VT for sharing this wonderful pattern with us.



triangle plus 1/2"



handle placement



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