

Sew a Charlie Bag with Bias and French Seams

By: BurdaStyle

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/sew-a-charlie-bag-with-bias-and-french-seams>



This is a nice way to finish a Charlie bag with home-made bias tape and a straight stitch machine. You can make bias tape to match your Charlie bag, you can use store-bought fold-over bias, and/or you can use contrasting bias. Your choice! These instructions also explain sewing the Charlie bag with French Seams: all the raw edges are put away, making for an extra strong and pretty bag.

Step 1



1. Cut bias. For the inner part of the handles, 2 pieces of 27 inch long and 1 3/4 inch wide. For the long outer edge of the bag, 55 inch by 1

Step 2



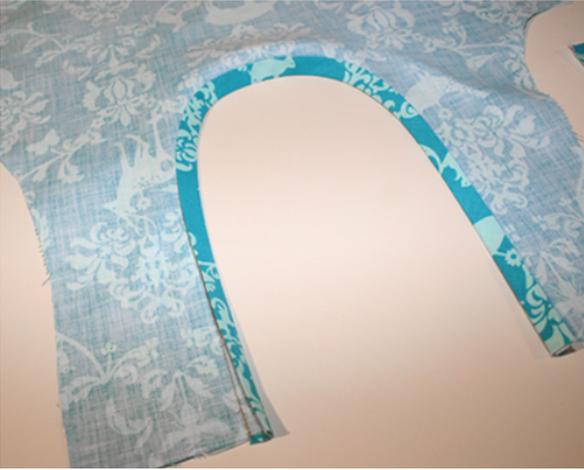
First, sew bias to the inside curve of the handle, right sides facing, at

Step 3



Turn over, fold edges of bias to meet, iron flat.

Step 4



Fold bias one more time to the wrong side, iron flat.

Step 5



Topstitch the bias, catching the back.

Step 6



Sew the tops of the handles to each other (the handles from on pattern piece attach to themselves, not to the handles on the other pattern piece, Iâve messed this up many times and donât want you to, also!). Sew handle tops using a [Felled Seam for Jeans](#). Repeat on other side.

Step 7



Finish short edges of the little pouch by folding twice and topstitching. We are using French seams here: Fold at notches, sew at

Step 8



Turn, neaten edges if necessary, and sew at 3/8 inch with right sides facing.

Step 9



Sew one side seam: Wrong sides facing, with the pouch sandwiched between two sides in accordance with the notches. Make sure the folded part of the pouch is at the seam and the open part of the pouch goes toward the center of the bag. Sew at

Step 10



Turn so right sides are facing, sew at 3/8 inch.

Step 11



Sew long piece of bias to the long outer edge of the handles the same way we did the inner handles: sew right sides facing, turn and iron, topstitch.

Step 12



Sew second side seam as we sewed the first side seam: Sew wrong sides facing at 1/4 inch, turn so right sides are facing, sew at 3/8 inch.

Step 13



Bottom: with wrong sides facing, fold in at notches, sew at $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, turn, and sew at $\frac{3}{8}$ inch.

Step 14



Now go save the world with your reusable nonplastic beautiful bag!

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