

Pleather clutch bag tutorial

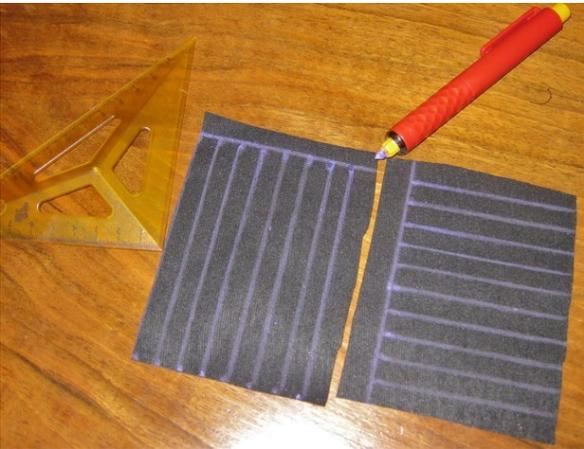
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<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/pleather-clutch-bag-tutorial>



This is a clutch bag I made recently, using pieces of pleather woven together. Halfway through making this bag I thought it might be a nice idea to take pictures of what I was doing and write a little tutorial. Of course, this was when I had a half finished bagâ€¦hmmm, smart thinking. I anyway wanted to post this tutorial, but I have added some pictures that I made afterwards, so you get the idea. Another warning: I am still a bit clumsy when it comes to sewing and I definitely don't do things in the right order most of the times. But, I worked for me, so it will probably also work for you!

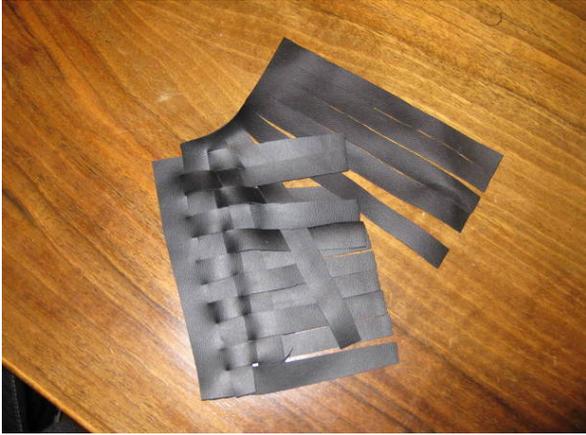
Step 1



So what you'll need: * Two big pieces of pleather, I used pieces of 35 Ã 42 cm, but this is totally up to you * Three pieces of lining (I used black polyester), I used pieces of 35 Ã 21 cm * Three similar sized pieces of fusible interfacing * Two zippers, I used one of 30 cm, and one of 25 cm. First of all; lay out your pieces of pleather and mark them on the wrong side. On the first piece mark a line 1cm from one of the short sides, parallel to the short side. On the second piece, mark a line 1cm from one of the long sides, parallel to the long side. Then mark whole bunch of lines perpendicular to the

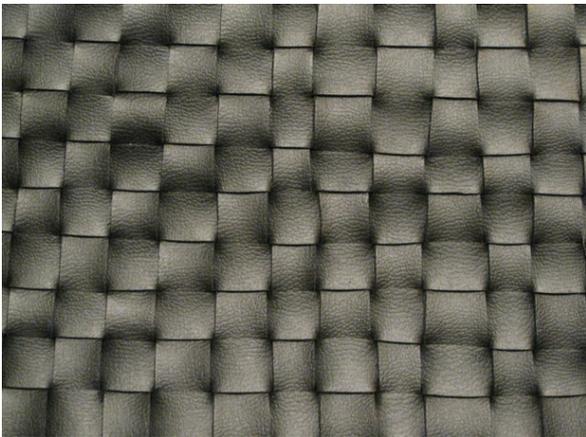
lines you just made. For my bag I spaced the lines 1.5 cm from each other, but that's totally up to you of course. (the following pictures are just for illustration and not the actual panels used in the bag - again I did not make pictures until halfway):

Step 2



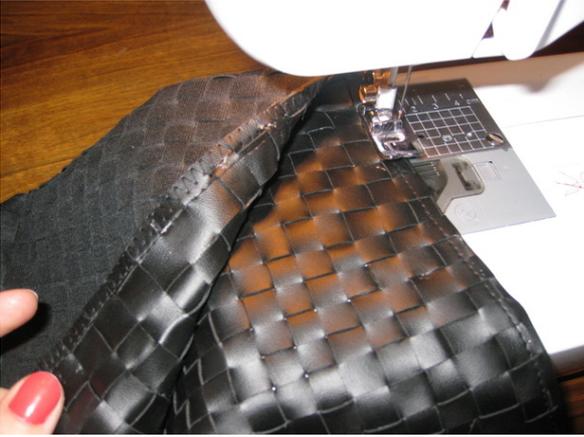
Cut the marked lines right up to the first line you marked. Now the tricky bit, weaving the pleather together. All I can say about this is place the rectangular pieces on top of each other and weave them together (going under, going over, going under, going over, ->->-you'll get it) until you are all woven out. This is what it looks like halfway (on a sample bit of pleather):

Step 3



This is what it should look like up close!

Step 4



Ok, so what you'll want to do next is to fix all sides so the individual strips won't move. I did this by first sewing over it with a normal stitch, and then again with a zig zag stitch. But before I even touched my sewing machine, I marked a perfect rectangle onto my pleather, so I could sew over it straight and ended up with a rectangular piece of fabric (the weaving sometimes changes the shape a little bit).

Step 5



A nice rectangle!

Step 6



Now attach the fusible interfacing to the wrong side of your lining pieces. I ironed the interfacing on, but also fixed it using a zig zag stitch.

Step 7



On the wrong side of one of the lining pieces, mark where the shorter zipper for the pocket on the inside of the bag needs to be. Cut open over the marked lines and iron flat.

Step 8



Pin and sew the zipper in place using a zipper foot. I am no expert in placing zippers, but you can find a good tutorial on http://u-handbag.typepad.com/uhandblog/2007/02/zippered_inner_.html.

Step 9



Pin the lining piece with zipper on top of another lining piece (the wrong side of zipper piece on right side of 2nd lining piece) and baste together.

Step 10



Attach one of the short sides of the pleather piece to the longer zipper and after that, attach the other short end.

Step 11



Sew the short sides of the pleather piece together.

Step 12



Pin and sew the short sides of the lining pieces together (the zipper ensemble and the 3rd piece), right sides together. DON'T sew the longer sides together.

Step 13



Keep the lining pieces turned inside out and slide over the pleather piece (which is turned right side out). Pin and sew pieces together. Make sure the zipper teeth are out of the way (turned inside out).

Step 14



Almost finished! Now take the open ends of the lining and fold the lower edge inside, press. Stitch the lining together.

Step 15



Done!

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