

Mimy bag tutorial

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



I made this bag for my mother in law who repeatedly dropped hints about how great it was if I made her a bag for her birthday. This bag has the shape of a tote bag, but I 'pimped' it with a pocket on the outside (closed with flap and wooden buckle) and two simple pockets and a zippered pocket on the inside. The bag closes with a recessed zipper and has two longer handles, so it can be worn over the shoulder.

Step 1



This is what you'll need to cut: 1. For the outside of the bag: cut 2 pieces of 35 x 32 cm and one long piece of 7 x 103 cm from the main fabric. /// 2. For the pocket on the outside: cut one piece of 35 x 27 cm from main fabric and two pieces for the flap, one from main fabric and one from lining fabric. How to cut the flap piece is shown in the next picture. /// 3. For the buckle straps: You need a buckle, and metal eyelets. Cut 2 pieces of 24 x 4(*) cm and two pieces of 20 x 4(*) cm from the main fabric. (*) The width of the straps depends on the size of the buckle. Measure the inner width of your buckle and add seam allowance for the total width of your straps. /// 4. For the pockets on the inside: you need one zipper of 25 cm. Cut one piece of 44 x 35 cm and one piece of 35 x 32 cm of lining fabric, cut one piece of 35 x 32 cm of main fabric. /// 5. For the inside of the bag: cut 2 pieces of 35 x 32 cm and one piece of 7 x 103 cm from the lining fabric. /// 6. For the bag's zipper

closure: cut two pieces of 7 x 37 cm of main fabric and two similar sized pieces of lining fabric. You'll need a 35 cm zipper, preferably a zipper that you can take apart. // / 7. For the straps you'll need two pieces of 15 x 72 cm of main fabric.

Step 3



Start with the buckle strap, Take the two pieces of 20 x 4 cm (again, strap width depends on your buckle). Cut a V at one of the end of the straps. Sew the straps together and turn inside out. Iron flat and topstitch.

Step 2

This is the pattern for the flap. Cut along the thick black lines, Cut one from main fabric and one from lining fabric.

Step 4



Now mark where the eyelets should come, evenly apart. I think I used 1.5 cm between eyelets.

Step 5



Insert your eyelets, according to the instructions on the package. As you can see, I used a hammer.

Step 6



This is what it should look like.

Step 7



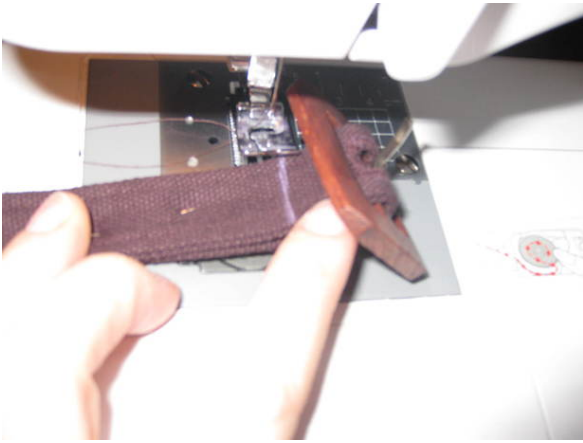
Now take the other two strap pieces (24 x 4 cm), stitch the long sides together and turn inside out. Iron flat and add topstitching.

Step 8



In the middle of the strap, mark a square of about 1 x 1 cm. Use a zigzag stitch to stitch over these marked lines, as if you are making a buttonhole. Then remove the inner square of fabric.

Step 9



Now fold this strap double, with the open square going over the pin in the buckle. Sew the straps together as close as possible under the buckle. Baste the strap ends together as well.

Step 10



Now make the flap. Pin the flap parts together, right sides together, and include the strap with the eyelets. Test to make sure the 'nice side' of the eyelets is placed facing the main fabric. Stitch flaps together, except at the long end.

Step 11



Turn flap inside out, iron flat and use topstitching. This is what it should look like.

Step 12



For the pocket on the outside of the bag, take the 35 x 27 cm piece of main fabric. Fold one of the long edges over twice, and press. Topstitch in place.

Step 13



Attach the strap containing the buckle to the pocket piece (not shown on pictures), stitching over the same lines you made in step 9. Baste the pocket onto one of the bag outside pieces (35 x 32 cm main fabric piece) and also baste the top of the flap to the same piece.

Step 14



Now complete the outside of the bag, by first pinning the long 7 x 103 cm of main fabric along the outer pocket piece. Stitch in place, cut corners and finish seams.

Step 15



Now take the other piece of 35 x 32 cm main fabric and pin & sew to the long piece.

Step 16



The outside of your bag is now finished!

Step 17



Now move to the inside. First grab the 44 x 35 cm lining piece. Fold this piece double and stitch along the folded edge.

Step 18



Mark a line down the middle of the piece. Now attach this piece to one of the 35 x 32 cm lining pieces by sewing over your marked line. After that, baste the sides together.

Step 19



Voila! Two pockets!

Step 20



Now to add a zippered pocket to the other side of the inside of the bag: take one piece of 35 x 32 cm of lining and 35 x 32 cm piece of main fabric. Mark a rectangle on the wrong side of the main fabric, where your zipper should come. Mark a line right through the middle of your rectangle, with two 'V's' on the end, as is shown in the picture.

Step 21



Now place the two pieces together, right sides together and sew over the rectangle.

Step 22



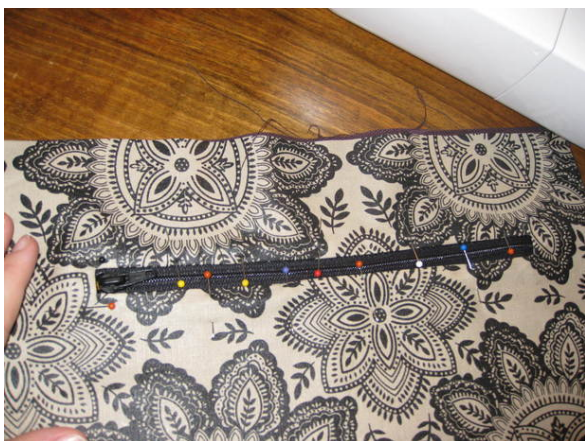
Now cut the middle line and the V's, as is shown in the picture.

Step 23



Ok, now pull the main fabric through the whole you just cut. Iron everything flat (sorry don't have a picture for that).

Step 24



Pin your zipper to the two layers of fabric and stitch.

Step 25



Now grab another piece of 35 x 32 cm lining fabric. Place the zippered piece on top of this lining piece and baste together.

Step 26



Now in a similar way as you did with the outer bag, assemble the inner bag pieces together. Pin the long piece (7 x 103 cm lining) to the zipper piece and sew together. Cut the corners and finish the seams.

Step 27



Now attach the other piece (the one with the simple pockets). **DO NOT SEW BETWEEN THE ARROWS!** You need to keep this bit open, so you can turn your bag inside out later, when you attach all parts to each other.

Step 28



The inside of your bag is finished!

Step 29



Now on to make the zip closure for the bag. Take one piece of 7 x 37 cm of lining and one of main fabric and your zipper of 35 cm. It would be easiest if you would use a zipper that 'comes apart'. Pin the pieces together as shown on the picture: fabric pieces right sides together, with one of the zipper parts in the middle. Now sew together.

Step 30



Also sew the short sides together at both ends. Once you have done so, turn the inside out and iron everything flat.

Step 31



Stitch over the right side of the main fabric, while pulling both the main as well as the lining fabric as much away from the zipper as possible. This ensures that your zipper doesn't get stuck in the bulky fabric.

Step 32



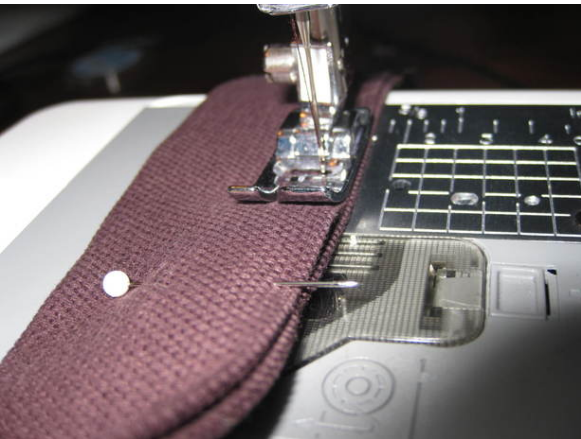
Do exactly the same for the other part of the zipper. You should end up with something that looks like this.

Step 33



Now onto the last part: the straps (15 x 72 main fabric pieces). Fold each piece double lengthwise and iron flat. Open up and fold the long sides to the inside so that they meet at the fold you just ironed in. Press. Then fold everything double and press again. Hope this makes sense. You should end up with a strap that is 1/4 the width of your original fabric piece.

Step 34



Now sew the open ends of the straps together.

Step 35



Ok, now the last, and tricky bit: assembling the bag. Take the outer bag and keep it right side out. Pin the strap on both sides. I pinned the straps 7 cm from the side of the bag.

Step 36



Now take the zipper piece that you made in step 32 and unzip the zipper, so it is in two halves. Pin each half to the bag, with the main fabric side facing the outer bag and the lining side facing up (see picture).

Step 37



Take the inner bag and make sure the right side is inside. Slide it over the outer bag, as is shown in the picture. Pin the edges of the inner & outer bag, the straps and zipper pieces together and stitch along the edge. Finish seams.

Step 38



To make sure that the handles don't come off that easily I always stitch back and forth over the parts where the handles are attached. As you can see, I did not do this in the most sophisticated way, but hey, who cares, it will be invisible anyway...

Step 39



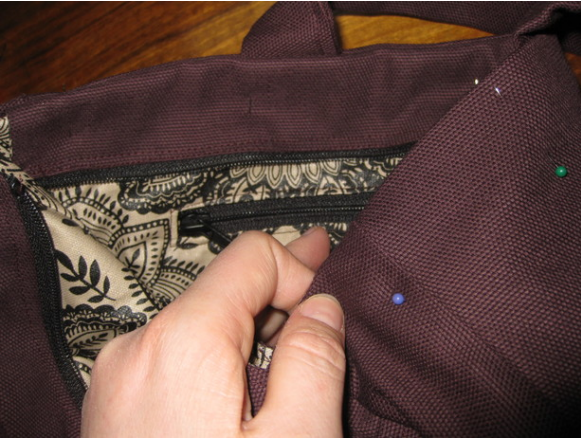
Now gently pull the outer bag through the whole that you have left in the inner bag.

Step 40



When you have completely turned the bag inside out, you can fix the whole in the lining. I do this by just pinning the two pieces together and stitching over it.

Step 41



Now push the inner bag neatly into the outer bag, you are almost finished! To create a 'recessed zipper closure' (don't know if it is the right term), pin the lining pieces to the inside of the bag and iron.

Step 42



Then sew over the outside of the bag. I used a 2cm 'seam allowance'. Make sure you don't sew over the flap, but sew under it, so the flap will fall over this seam line.

Step 43



Now as the very last step I stitched to two ends of the zipper together, so that they won't come apart!

Step 44



You're done! Whoohoo!

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