



BEAUTIFUL THINGS

Craft & Sewing Classes

Choose your own adventure box – A Beautiful Things designed pattern

This box is named as such because it really is what you choose to make of it. The pattern is for a standard 4 sided box with a base. Handles and an optional internal zipper pocket. You can make it as a soft box and quilt it or as a sturdy box with foam panels. You can make it from crazy patchwork fabric, or plain fabrics.

Optional extras are: Flat side pockets with or without elasticated tops. A drawstring top and a flap pocket.

We strongly suggest you watch through the entire course BEFORE attempting to cut out. This will help you decide what type of box you wish to make. You can then get cut out and prepared and then watch and sew along pausing as you go. Please remember these notes are designed to compliment the video tutorial and are not detailed enough in their own right to construct the box from.

Materials required for a basic box:

100% Quilting cotton, scraps (for crazy patch) or meterage as per notes below
1 metre of plain 100% cotton (lining)
1metre of Wadding for quilted version.
1 metre of foam for foam lined version

Optional extras

1-2 metres of 100% cotton for optional drawstring top
Cord and spring loaded toggle
12" or longer dress zipper (optional internal pocket)
Mesh fabric if you choose to make mesh pockets – This is sold in packs
KAM snaps if you would prefer poppers on your flap pocket.
 $\frac{3}{4}$ " elastic (for elasticated pocket)
Wadding for flap pockets

Useful tools:

505 repositionable spray adhesive
Wonder clips
Driscols wonder tape
Prym aqua glue marker

All the above tools are available in our amazon store at www.amazon.co.uk/shop/beautifulthings

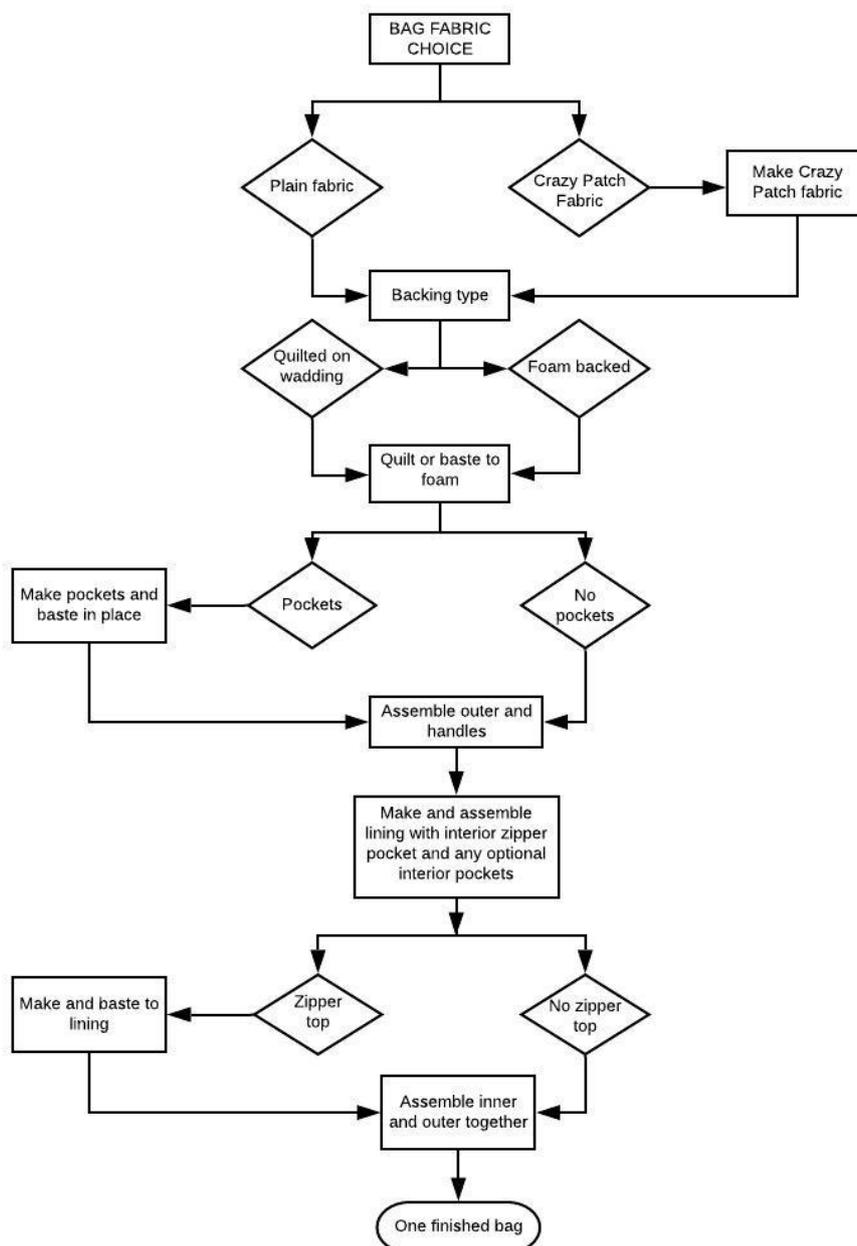
Notes on quantity:

Until you have chosen all the parts you wish to include in your bag it is impossible to total up the materials required. We strongly suggest you put together a version of your bag on paper and then work through the course to establish the requirements for each part. The construction steps that follow will help you with this task.

Construction steps:

- 1) Decide on your bags design
- 2) If using crazy patch, make your fabric/If using plain fabric, choose your fabrics
- 3) Cut out main bag parts as per ESSENTIAL cutting guide
- 4) Quilt main bag parts to wadding or baste to foam
- 5) Create any of the optional pockets & baste in place on the outer
- 6) Make handles
- 7) Construct the outside of your bag
- 8) Insert internal zipper into lining
- 9) Construct lining
- 10) Baste handles onto outside of bag
- 11) If adding a drawstring top, stitch and sew into lining
- 12) Stitch lining and outer together
- 13) Turn in and top stitch

The flow chart below was for the choose your own adventure BAG – It can be used as a guide just replace the optional zipper top with drawstring top!



Cutting guide:

Main box parts ESSENTIAL CUTTING

Outer:

Main panel panels 11" x 11" (small box) 14" x 14" (large box) - (cut x 5 fabric) – 1 base and 4 sides

Main panels for structure (foam) cut as per main panels – (wadding) cut slightly larger than main panels

Lining:

Main panel panels 11" x 11" (small box) 14" x 14" (large box) - (cut x 5) – 1 base and 4 sides

Handles:

6" wide by 19" long (cut 2)

Optional Extras:

Drawstring top 22 ¼" long by 16" deep (cut x 2) (small) 27 ¾" long by 20" deep (large)

Elasticated side pockets - See individual instruction sections for guidance pattern creation.

Cut 1 x outer pocket panel from fabric, 1 from wadding.

Pocket lining panel 16" wide x 9.5" deep (small) 19" wide x 10.5" deep (large)

Flat pockets outer – 11" x 6" (small) 14" x 6" (large)

Flat pocket linings/binding - 11" x 7.5" (small) 14" x 7.5" (large)

Flap pocket:

Flap 11" x 3.5" (small) 14" x 3.5" (large) (cut x 2 one outer, one lining)

Flap facing 11" x 1.5" (small) 14" x 1.5" (large)

Pocket outer 11" x 6.5" (small) 14" x 7.5" (large) (cut x 2 one outer, one lining)

Use a ¼" / Edge of presser foot seam allowance throughout unless stated otherwise. Seam allowance is included in the pattern.

Video guide and timestamps:

Video 1

(First 8 minutes of video 1 and any additional videos marked in green are classed as essential viewing)

Intro to box design and pocket types

Cutting info

Crazy patch fabric & how to quilt using wadding

Adding foam to your bag

Basting fabric to foam

Sewing flat pockets (14:27)

Video 2

Making a flap pocket (start)

Sewing fabric elasticated pockets & making patterns (14:32)

Basting pockets to bag

Video 3

Assembling the bag outer (start)

Making handles (10:13)

Attaching handles (12:30)

Video 4

Attaching handles continued (start)

Inserting zipper pocket into the lining (2:33) (watch the beginning even if you are not inserting a zipper pocket to discuss turning)

Video 5

Constructing the lining (start)

Adding the drawstring top (6:34)

Assembling box (24:15)

Pocket Instructions:

Side pockets - elasticated

Make pattern piece (14:32 vid2) Pocket outer dimensions: small (7" tall, 11" bottom, 15" top edge) large (8" tall, 14" bottom, 18" top edge)

- 1) Cut fabric Main front as per pattern & quilt or spray mount onto wadding
- 2) Cut lining pieces as per cutting guide
- 3) Place pocket piece Right Sides Together along top edge of lining and stitch in place
- 4) Bring fabric Wrong Sides Together, line up bottom edges and press to create a faux binding which will become your elastic channel. Press well
- 5) Top stitch onto the pocket and baste down the edges of the pocket NOT on the binding
- 6) Trim up leaving straight edges on binding and removing excess lining from the sides
- 7) Thread elastic into the channel and secure in place at both ends

Side pockets – Flat

- 1) Interface both pieces of fabric if using a lightweight cotton
- 2) Place RStog and sew along top edge
- 3) Press WStog lining up bottom edges to leave a faux binding strip at the top of the pocket
- 4) Top stitch down for neatness
- 5) Place onto side of box, marking any lines for pockets and top stitch down
- 6) Baste down both edges with a narrow seam allowance

Side pockets – flap

- 1) Place outer and lining flap RStog fold in half widthways and curve the corners
- 2) Place on top of wadding strip and stitch along the curve

- 3) Trim seam allowance with pinking shears, turn, press and top stitch
- 4) Straighten up top edge
- 5) Press up bottom edge of flap facing by ½"
- 6) Lay raw edge of binding RStog on top of flap top edge with ¼" hanging over either end
- 7) Stitch in place
- 8) Press binding up and over to encase the raw edge of the pocket. Clip in place but do not sew. Set to one side
- 9) Place pocket main and pocket lining RStog and stitch along top edge. Press seam allowance towards the lining and then place fabrics WStog and press
- 10) Top stitch the top edge of the pocket
- 11) Lay on the side panel along the bottom edge, baste in place along bottom and both sides
- 12) Pin flap on a little bit above top edge of pocket top and stitch in place with a 1/8 allowance from the seam where the binding meets the flap.
- 13) Add additional KAM snaps or button to flap if required.

Pockets of any type can be added to the side panels of the outer and lining. You can have 0 – 4 pockets in any one box.

Outside bag construction Instructions:

- 1) Baste optional pockets in place on side panels
 - 2) Make Handles
 - 3) Attach main front and back to base Right Sides Together along the bottom edge leaving ¼" unsewn at the start and end of each seam
 - 4) Attach sides to the base along the bottom edges leaving ¼" unsewn at the start and end of each seam
 - 5) Stitch up each side from the top edge to the base back tacking at either end of the seam
 - 6) Once your outer is constructed add the handles. Measure in 4/5" from either side seam and mark with a pin. Attach the raw edge of the handles in line with this mark being careful not to twist the handle. Baste in place with a ¼" edge of foot allowance.
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Inserting internal zipper pocket into the lining:

- 1) Take 1 main lining panel mark the centre of the top edge on the WRONG SIDE of the fabric
- 2) Draw a line 3" down from the top edge that is 9" long in total. (4.5" out from the centre on either side)
- 3) Draw a longer line ¼" higher and another one 1/4" lower
- 4) Draw lines ¼" out from either end of the 9" line you will then have created a rectangular BOX surrounding your 9" line
- 5) Draw out from the end of your 9" line to the corner of the rectangle on all 4 corners
- 6) Place facing panel centrally BEHIND the rectangle on the right side of the fabric and pin in place on the wrong side
- 7) Sew around the rectangle pivoting to sew 1 stitch diagonally at the corners
- 8) Cut along the 9" line through both layers of fabric and up to the corners along the diagonal lines. Be careful not to cut the stitching
- 9) Turn the facing through to the wrong side and press in place carefully. Place panel to one side.
- 10) Take your 2 pocket linings and remove 1" of fabric from the top long edge of ONE piece
- 11) Turn bottom edge of each lining piece ½" to the wrong side and press.

- 12) Take 1 pocket piece and place Right Sides UP, place zipper Teeth uppermost along the top edge and pin or tape in place. (Sew with a zipper foot in a colour thread that matches the zip tape)
 - 13) Turn zip over so that you have the Right Side of fabric showing and the Wrong Side of zip showing
 - 14) Lay 2nd panel Right Sides down onto the Wrong Side of the zip (both pocket panels will now be RIGHT SIDES together)
 - 15) Pin or tape in place and stitch with a zipper foot
 - 16) Open up the panels and with Zip teeth uppermost and the short lining panel closest to you open up zipper and place the hole in your lining panel over the zip (hole at the TOP edge of your panel). (wrong sides of panel down onto right side of zip)
 - 17) Pin or tape in place and stitch with a 1/8 seam allowance pivoting on the corners
 - 18) Bring bottom pressed edges of pocket linings together and clip or pin up the sides of the pocket.
 - 19) Stitch up both sides, being careful not to catch any of the main lining panel
 - 20) Secure the ends of the zipper with a few stitches back and forth and remove the excess zip tape
 - 21) OPEN the Zip and ensure the base of the pocket linings remains open and unstitched at this point.
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Constructing the lining:

Construct the lining in the same way as the outside bag. If you did not include a zipper pocket, leave a hand width opening in one of the side seams to turn.

Making the handles:

- 1) Press fabric strips lengthways Wrong Sides together and steam
 - 2) Open back out to reveal the press line
 - 3) Bring long raw edges on both sides into the press line Wrong Sides together and press
 - 4) Bring both folded edges Wrong Sides together creating a 4 thickness of fabric
 - 5) Top stitch at 1/8 along both long edges to secure
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Creating and attaching optional drawstring top

- 1) Sew both drawstring tops RStog down the narrow edge and press the seam open
- 2) Turn each end in by ½" and ½" again and press. Glue baste in place
- 3) Fold RStog lengthways and sew from one end to the other making a long tube
- 4) Turn the right way in and press
- 5) Mark 1" down from the folded edge on both sides of the fabric and on either end of the tube
- 6) Top stitch the edges between the 2 pen marks
- 7) Draw a line 3/4" away from the folded edge all along the length of the tube and then top stitch along the line.
- 8) Fold the tube in half width ways RStog. Sew from the top stitched line down to the bottom.
- 9) Press the seam to one side
- 10) Draw a line on your box lining on the right side 1.5" down from the top edge all the way around
- 11) Post the box into the tube so the wrong side of your tube is touching the right side of the box. Line up the pressed edge underneath the penline and align all seams. Pin in place
- 12) Sew in place with a ¼" seam allowance. You can start and stop just before the bulky seam

Final construction:

- 1) Place outer and lining Right sides together. (Handles should be hanging down in between the lining and the outer)
- 2) Stitch around the top edge of the bag
- 3) Pull your bag in the right way through the internal pocket in your lining or through the gap in the side seam if you didn't put a pocket in.
- 4) Check everything is as it should be and then close the hole in the bottom of your pocket or side seam
- 5) Press well along the top edge and top stitch (for foam bags please watch additional video instructions on completing this)

And finally.....

Take a picture of your project and share it on our social media pages!

