



Handbag Organiser

This pattern was designed in-house by Beautiful Things.
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Materials required

½ metre of 100% cotton or lightweight canvas for bag outer

½ metre of 100% cotton for lining

9" (or longer) nylon dress zip

10" of ¼" elastic in any colour

½ metre of heavyweight iron on interfacing

Cutting guide

A = Main side panel	10" wide x 7.5" tall	Cut x 2 Outer Cut x 2 Lining
B = Inner side pocket	10" wide x 6" tall	Cut x 1 Outer Cut x 1 Lining
C = Narrow Main side panel	5" wide x 7.5" tall	Cut x 2 Outer Cut x 2 Lining
D = Side pockets outer	10" wide x 5.5" tall	Cut x 2 Outer Cut x 2 Lining
E = Side elasticated pocket	7" wide Top, 5" wide bottom 5.5" tall	Cut x 2 Outer Cut x 2 Lining
F = Zip pocket facing & back	10" wide x 7.5" tall	cut x 2 fabric you would like to see inside your pocket
G = Base	10" wide x 5" tall	Cut x 1 Outer Cut x 1 Lining
H = Handles	7" wide x 3" tall	Cut x 2 outer fabric
I = Keychain	7" wide x 2" tall	Cut x 1 any fabric

Add heavy weight interfacing to all of the following outer pieces (A) (C) & (G)

Instructions

Creating the internal pockets

Zipper pocket

- 1) Take 1 lining side piece (A) measure 2.5" down from the top edge and draw a line with removable pen on the wrong side of the fabric. Mark the centre of the line
- 2) Measure out 3" from the centre marking on both sides and make a mark
- 3) Draw a line $\frac{1}{4}$ " below the main line and $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the main line
- 4) Connect all 3 lines with a vertical line at the 3" marks
- 5) Draw another vertical line $\frac{1}{4}$ " out from the previous vertical lines
- 6) Draw diagonally out to each corner from the inner vertical line to the outer one.



- 7) Place facing panel (F) right sides together behind the lining panel and pin in place.
- 8) Sew around the outer rectangle
- 9) Cut along the central line and out to the corners along the diagonal line, being careful not to cut the stitches
- 10) Turn the facing through to the wrong side and press well to create a neat letter box style opening.
- 11) Place opening over the zipper (teeth and lining fabric facing upwards) use tape along the outer edges of the zip to hold the opening in place.
- 12) Making sure the zipper pull is inside the opening carefully topstitch around the opening with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance in matching thread.
- 13) Trim off any excess zip along the edge of the fabric.
- 14) Place WS of zip onto the RS of pocket back piece (F) and baste with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance around all 4 edges.

Flat folded pocket

- 1) Take both Inner side pocket (B) pieces and sew RST along the top edge
- 2) Open up and press WS together
- 3) Top stitch folded edge
- 4) Place lining side of pocket on top of lining side piece (A) lining up the bottom edges and baste with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance along the bottom and down both sides

Assemble lining

- 1) Mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from each corner of the base panel lining piece (G) on the wrong side with a dot
- 2) Place base panel (G) RST along bottom edge of lining side. Sew between the dots with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " allowance securing at either end. (this will leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " unsewn at either end)
- 3) Repeat with other side panel
- 4) Mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from either corner on the bottom edge of lining pieces (C)
- 5) Place RST along the sides of the base panel, lining up the dots with the seams from sewing the sides.
- 6) Sew from seam to seam/dot to dot securing at both ends with a backtack
- 7) Repeat on opposite side
- 8) Clip the top corners of each side panel together. Place your finger in the bottom of the join to create a Y join and sew from the top to the bottom **down 3 sides** only.
- 9) On the 4th side sew 1.5" down from the top and 1.5" up from the base, leaving an opening for turning later

Creating Outer

Outer side pockets

- 1) Take all 4 outer side pocket pieces (D), place 1 outer RST with a lining piece and sew along the top edge.
- 2) Open out and press WST and top stitch along the top edge
- 3) If you haven't done so already Add heavy weight interfacing to all of the following outer pieces (A) (C) & (G)
- 4) Place side pockets on top of main side panel outer (A) lining up bottom edges and baste in place along the bottom and down both sides with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance
- 5) Mark any divisions you may want in your outer pockets for pens, glasses etc and mark with a removable pen.
- 6) Stitch down division lines securing at the top with a lock stitch or back tack at the top edge

Side elasticated pockets

- 1) Place outer and lining pieces (E) RST and sew along the long top edge
- 2) Press WST and top stitch along the top edge $\frac{3}{4}$ " inch from the top fold ($\frac{5}{8}$ " allowance) to create a channel for elastic to be inserted
- 3) Cut 2 x pieces of elastic 5" long
- 4) Feed elastic into the channel securing with a backtack at either end with a narrow $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance. This should form a ruched top edge
- 5) Repeat steps 1 – 5 to create a second pocket
- 6) Clip to the bottom edge of side panel (C) and along the sides and baste in place at $\frac{1}{8}$ "

Making keychain and handles

- 1) Press all 3 pieces WST lengthways, open up and press both long raw edges in towards the centre. Bring both folded edges together and press again making a neat $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip
- 2) Open up each short end and place RST, sew along each end with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " allowance
- 3) Trim bulk at the corners and turn back in to the WS to form a neat strip with finished ends
- 4) Top stitch down both long edges with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance using a backtack or lock stitch at the start of your row
- 5) For keychain slide a small lobster clasp onto one end and secure with some stitching to hold the clasp in place. Set this aside until final assembly

Attaching handles

- 1) On both Main outer sides (A) mark a line 1" down from the top edge with a removable pen.
- 2) Find the centre of the line and mark with a dot
- 3) Find the centre of the handle and line up with the centre dot on the line you just made
- 4) Position the handle underneath the line and pin in place
- 5) Stitch both short ends in place with secure stitches

Attaching Keychain

- 1) Position keychain into the side opening of the lining at the base of your top 1.5" stitch line. Lobster clasp and chain should be inside the RS of the lining with one end of your chain poking out the wrong side of the opening.
- 2) Baste in place with a $\frac{1}{8}$ " allowance.

Assembling Outer

- 1) Mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from each corner of the base panel lining piece (G) on the wrong side with a dot
- 2) Place base panel (G) RST along bottom edge of lining side. Sew between the dots with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " allowance securing at either end. (this will leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " unsewn at either end
- 3) Repeat with other side panel
- 4) Mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from either corner on the bottom edge of lining pieces (C)
- 5) Place RST along the sides of the base panel, lining up the dots with the seams from sewing the sides.
- 6) Sew from seam to seam/dot to dot securing at both ends with a backtack
- 7) Repeat on opposite side
- 8) Clip the top corners of each side panel together. Place your finger in the bottom of the join to create a Y join and sew from the top to the bottom down all 4 sides

Final assembly

- 1) With outer RS out and lining WS out place outer inside lining so they are RST
- 2) Clip/pin and the sew around the top edge
- 3) Turn in the right way through the opening in the side
- 4) Turn raw edges of the opening to the WS and sew closed with a 1/8" allowance
- 5) Press well and top stitch the top edge

And finally.....

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

