

Thanet Quilters
Make-up bag with a drawstring cover

This is as easy as pie - and very speedy. Made in three sections as below:

Requirements

Main fabric 1x 11" x 24" Do not use directional fabric for main fabric

Lining 2x 11" x 11 1/2" lining fabric

Cuff 2x 11" x 7" coordinating fabric (this cuff makes the bag cover)

Handles 2x 14" handles - I use a soft webbing or strong ribbon (but you could make your own)

Drawstrings 2x drawstrings - I use 2-3 mm wide cotton piping cord but narrow ribbon would be lovely

If you are making your bag from a heavier weight cotton, I'd advise you use a patchwork cotton for the cuff/cover to reduce the bulk when assembling the bag.

Outer section - Main fabric

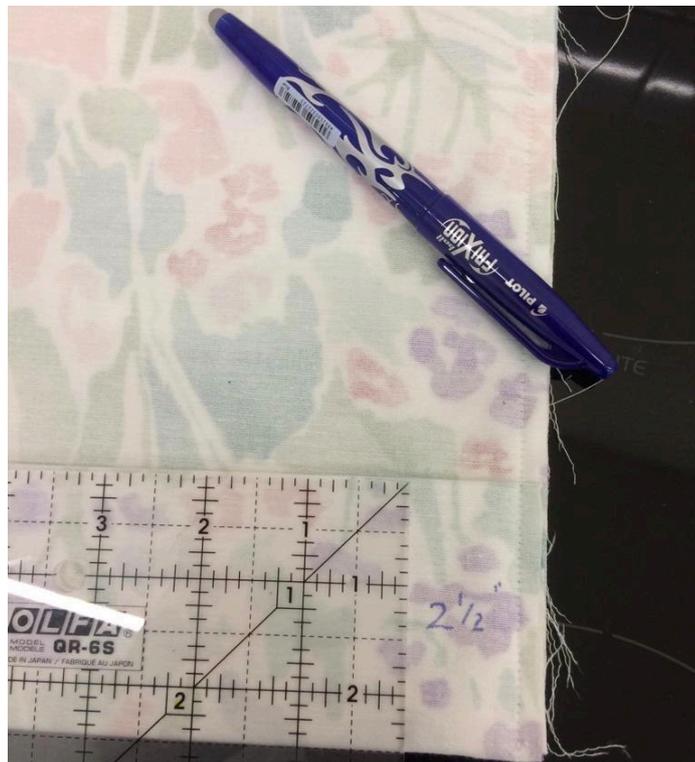
Cut fabric in one piece 11" x 24"

If you wish to embellish the bag please do it now.

For our toiletry bags we've made 3" x 2" fabric patches and added a 'Made for You' ribbon.

Fold the fabric, right-sides together, with short edges together. Turn up the folded (bottom) edge 2 1/2" and pin each side. Using 1/4" seam stitch each side seam.

Turn R side out. The bottom of the bag will fold in on itself.



Add handles: with fabric right sides out -



Measure 2" from each side seam and pin handles in place. Stitch in place using 1/8" seam allowance. Set aside

Cuff section (this is the cover which closes with a drawstring)

There are 2 ways of making this section. Read both before you decide.....

Version 1: (leaves inside seams unfinished but is easier to stitch when assembling)

Cut 2 pieces of fabric 11" x 7"

Place right sides together and mark 1 1/2" from the top down each of the 7" side seams. Stitch from this mark down the remainder of each side seam. Press seams (and seam allowances) open.

Press the 1 1/2" unstitched top sections to the wrong side of fabric and press the hem under to create the drawstring channel. Stitch in place.

(note: or you could overlock the edges with a narrow overlock/zig-zag stitch)

Version 2: (hems the side seams neatly but is a little bulkier)

Cut 2 pieces of fabric 11 1/2" x 7"

With right sides together, mark 1 1/2" down each 7" side seam and using a wide 1/2" seam allowance stitch from this mark down the remainder of the seams.

Press seams and seam allowances open and tuck under as you would a hem. Press.

Topstitch in place down the length of the 7" piece of fabric. (You will have to stitch through the circle of fabric as you would a cuff).

Press the 1 1/2" unstitched top sections to the wrong side of fabric and press the hem under to create the drawstring channel. Stitch in place.

Set aside

Lining

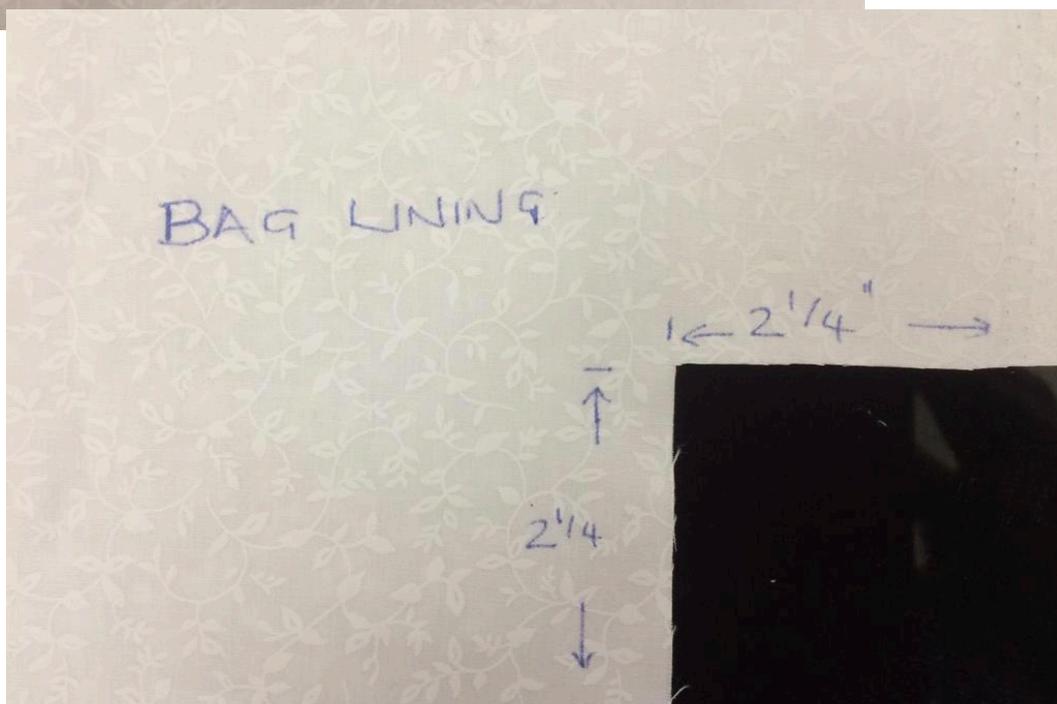
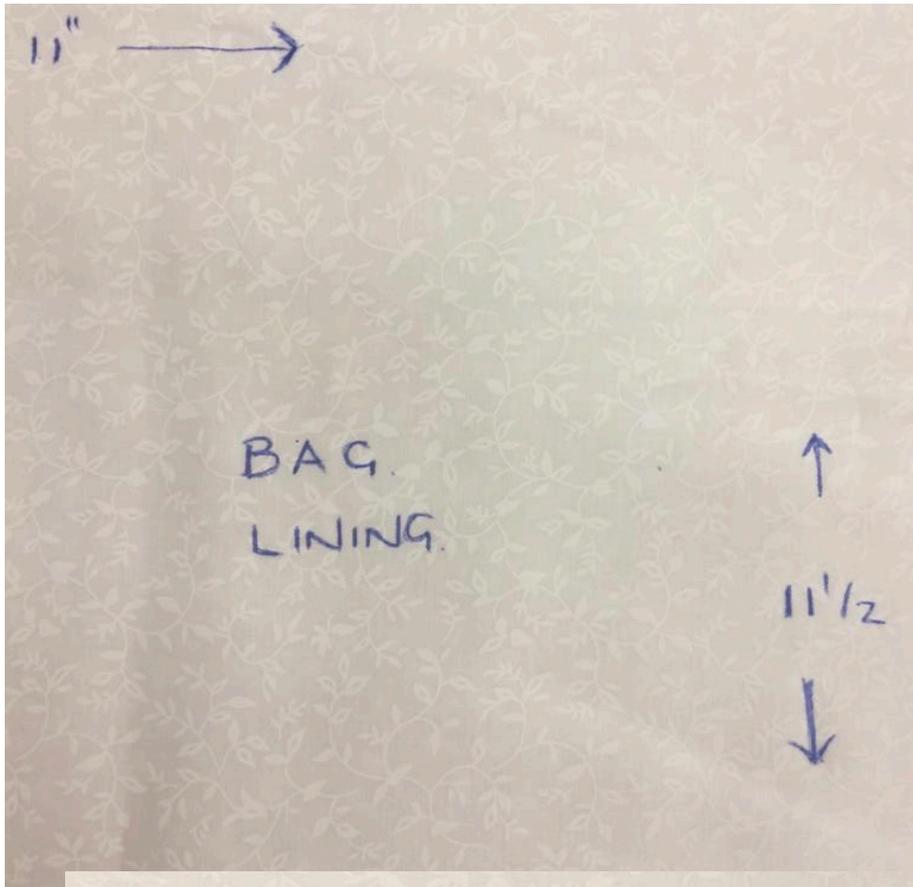
Cut 2 pieces of fabric 11" x 11 1/2"

Place right sides together with the 11 1/2" as the side seams.

Using a fabric marker draw 2 1/4" boxes on each of the bottom corners and cut away.

Using 1/4" seam allowances stitch sides seams and bottom (leaving a 3" gap in the bottom of the lining for turning).

Matching side seams to bottom seam, pin corners and stitch across the corners of the bag lining.



Assembling the bag

Take the main bag with handles attached, right side out, ensuring bag handles are lying flat against the right side of the fabric towards the bottom of the bag (you might want to pop a pin in to hold in place)

Add the cuff section to the outside of the main bag, right sides together with the drawstring channel toward the bottom of the bag and raw edges and side seams matching. Pin in place with a few pins.

With the bag lining section right sides inside, place the main bag/cuff section inside the lining, matching side seams and pin all 3 raw edges together. Keeping all three edges neat, stitch together using 1.4" seam allowance (mind they all stay together and be careful of the hidden pins holding the cuff in place).

Pull the main bag through the hole in the base of the lining and the cuff section will follow.

Tuck the lining and cuff sections inside the main bag. With the main bag right side out, finger press and pin round the seam. Using a wider seam allowance (I put the needle on the far left position) topstitch round the bag to enclose the raw edges inside. Stitch a second row of topstitching for effect if you wish.

Close the hole in the bottom of the lining.

Thread the drawstrings through the channels in the cover and tie.



Beautiful!!