

Schlep Bag

Materials for Class:

Sewing machine in good working order.
Thread to match fabric (there will be some top stitching)
Rotary cutter, ruler and mat.
Scissors, pins, and any other things you normally use when sewing.

Fabric and Batting:

OPTION 1

Seven (7) fat quarters. Select 7 different fabrics that look nice together. Batiks are nice: or you can have florals, black/whites, etc. Or perhaps some fabrics theme related, such as cat, dogs, etc.

Batting – 1 yard of batting – any kind other than HIGH LOFT.

Cutting to be done prior coming to the guild meeting.

Select two of your fat quarters and cut one 4"x22" strip from each for handles
From 6 of the fat quarters, (including the two from which handles were cut)

Cut 24 – 7" squares.

From the 7th fat quarter, cut four (4) 7 1/2" squares; cut each of these on the diagonal once so that you have eight half-square triangle.

OR

OPTION 2

If you prefer to use your stash fabrics, just cut the following from a variety of fabrics:

Twenty-four (24) 7" squares

Four (4) 7 1/2" squares; cut these four squares once on the diagonal

Two (2) 4"x22" strips for handles

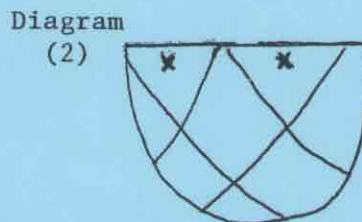
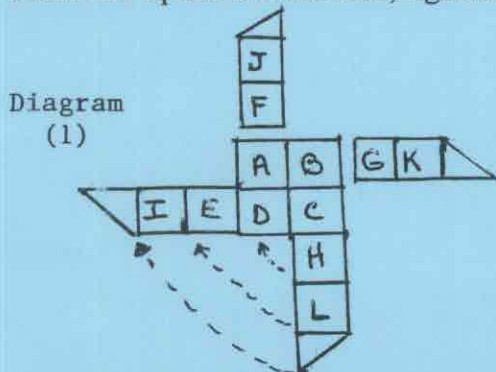
Note: Twelve of the squares, plus 4 triangles will be used for the outside of the bag and the other squares and triangles for the lining.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me:



MAKING THE SCHLEP BAG

1. **STRAPS** – Press under 1/4" seam allowance on each side on straps. Then press each strap in half lengthwise. Cut two pieces of batting approximately 22" X 1 5/8", or slightly narrower than the strap. Tuck one piece of batting into each strap. Top stitch strap to close; top stitch on opposite side also, and down the middle for stability.....
2. **BAG** – Separate the squares and half-square triangles into two equal stacks, one for the bag and one for the lining.
3. Place the square of stack one, right side up, according to diagram 1.



4. To start the bag, sew the four squares in the middle, making a four patch.
5. Sew the outer sections together (block f to j to triangle; block g to k to triangle; etc). Next sew each section to the four patch exactly as shown in diagram 1.
6. Now you will stitch the seams together to make the bag. You may want to press as you go since it will be difficult to press when bag is completed. Refer to diagram 1.
7. Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the second stack of squares and triangles (this is the lining). Sew arms together. STOP.....
8. This time **do not** attach the 'arms' to the four patch.
9. Lay out the four patch and each of the four 'arms' on the batting and cut batting pieces to match each section.
10. When you sew the seams to make the lining, include the batting in the seams. This will hold the batting in place and eliminate the need for quilting.

COMPLETING THE BAG

11. Center the straps on the half-square triangles on both sides of the bag.
See diagram 2. Place lining and bag right sides together and stitch top edge leaving a 3-4 inch opening.
12. Turn right sides out. Press top edge to get a crisp line and top stitch to reinforce top edge. If you want, top stitch again where handles are to reinforce them.
13. Congratulation, you have finished your Schlep Bag.