



Bohemian Bucket Bag

Patched, quilted and bound, this bag is a comfy classic for any quilter! Use your own choice of fabric scraps to piece the bag outer in this super-easy quilt-as-you-go style. This spacious everyday bag has a tab with magnetic clasp for closure at the top, and both zippered and cell phone pockets inside.

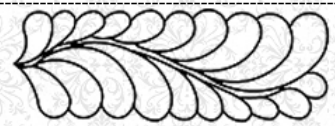


Bag Dimensions are 11 inches wide x 10 inches high (to centre top of bag).

You Will Need:

A selection of fabric remnants to piece the bag outer. We used Batik Fat Quarter scraps left over from another project.

1½ metres (1½ yards) fabric for lining and backing



½ metre (½ yard) medium-weight fusible interfacing

½ metre (½ yard) quilt batting / wadding

1 x 6 or 7 inch zip for inner zippered pocket

1 x magnetic clasp

Piece template plastic measuring 12 x 8 inches for stiffening base

Bag Construction:

Please read all instructions fully before beginning. All measurements are in inches, and unless stated otherwise, a ¼ inch seam allowance has been used.

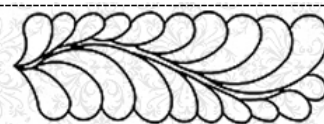
Referring to the attached Cutting Guide, carefully cut the required bag pieces from the bag fabrics and interfacing as required. Iron the interfacing to the back of each lining piece as indicated in the Cutting Guide.

Construction:



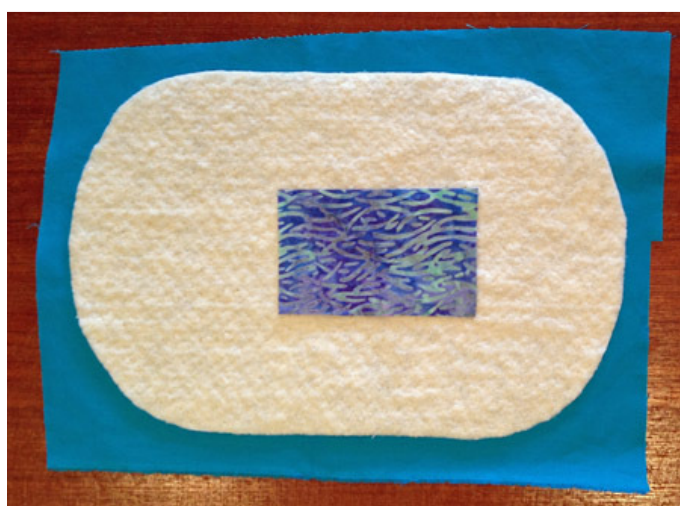
The first step is to piece and quilt-as-you-go the two bag outer sides, the base and the strap.

We used a selection of batik fabric remnants as shown, but you may choose whatever fabric colours and patterns you like.



The backing fabric pieces for these quilted panels do not need to be cut to size yet. Just roughly cut a piece to fit the batting piece as shown.

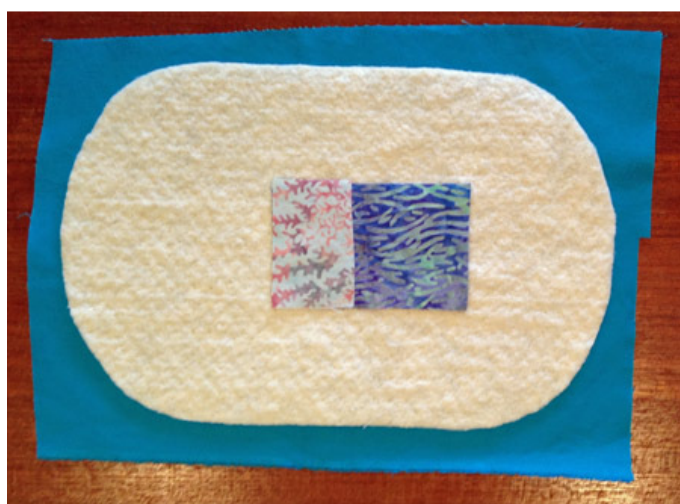
Smooth the batting over the backing fabric.



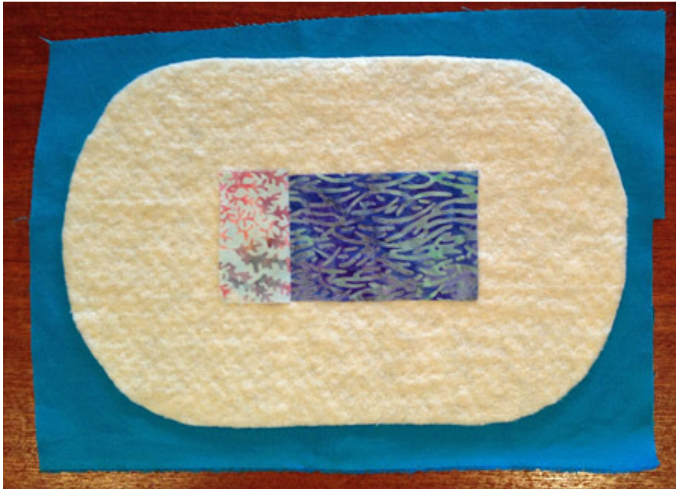
To start, place one piece of fabric right side up on the batting as shown.

You can start in the middle, or at one side.

The flexibility of this method means it's all up to you!

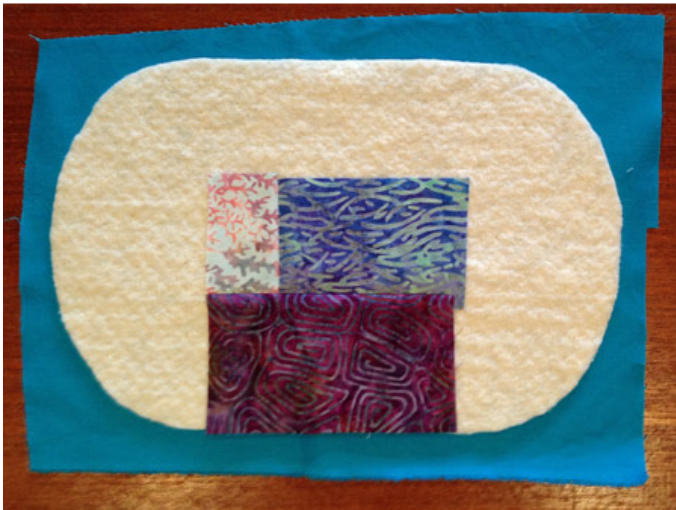


Lay a second fabric piece so that right sides are together and one edge aligned.



Sew along that edge through all layers, and flip open.

Finger press flat.



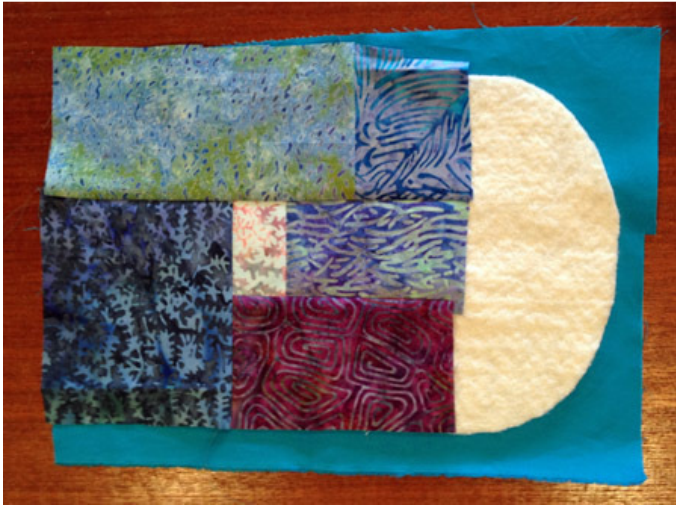
Add a third piece.

Again, position with right sides together, align edges, sew and flip.



Add a fourth.

Don't worry about matching edges with the batting. Add sufficient pieces to cover it and you will trim it at the end.



Try piecing a couple of pieces and adding them in one go across the top.

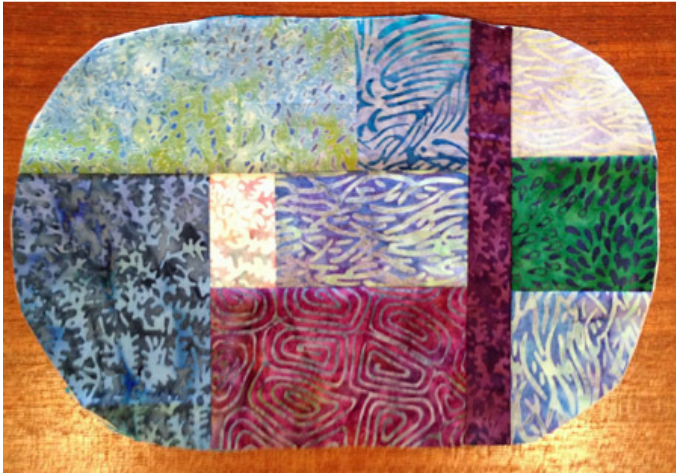


Try a strip down the side...



Piece a few more separately and add them to finish.

As these seams haven't been quilted through all layers, you may like to quilt/topstitch along the seam line of a couple to anchor them to the backing fabric and batting, but this is not essential.



Use the batting shape as a guide to trim the pieced top and backing fabrics.

Repeat this process to quilt and piece the two bag sides and the strap.



The strap (left) and both bag sides (below).



Now make the tab. Fold the tab piece in half with wrong sides together along the $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch side. Open out and place the batting strip along that centre crease as shown.

Insert one half of the magnetic clasp from the right side, so it is centred on the batting and about $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inch up from the bottom raw edge.

Simply press the prongs of the clasp onto the fabric



to make two indents and cut small slits on those marks with your seam ripper tool. Push the clasp through, turn over and slip on the washer. Fold the prongs over on themselves if you can.

Cut a small square of the fusible interfacing and iron it over the top of the back of the clasp to help protect the fabric of the tab.



Fold the tab in half with right sides together and sew down the side and across the bottom.

Clip corners and turn right sides out.

Topstitch around each side and put tab aside for now.



Insert the remaining half of the magnetic clasp on the front of the bag outer panel.

It needs to be centred and about 1- 1½ inches down from the top edge.

Press the prongs to make two indents, then cut a small slit at each and insert the clasp. Slip on the washer at the back, fold over the prongs and cover the clasp with a small square of fusible interfacing to finish.

Next, with right sides together, sew down both sides of the two outer bag panels.

Lay the un-interfaced base piece on the wrong side of the quilter outer base piece, and sew down each side with a scant seam. Make sure to keep one end open as this forms the 'pocket' for your template plastic base stiffener.

Fold the base and the lower end of the bag sides in half to find the centre points and mark with pins. Then pin the base in place at the bottom of your bag with right sides together, and sew.

Use the base as a guide and trim the template plastic to fit, before inserting it into the base pocket and turning bag right sides out.

With right sides together, sew the strap to the sides of the bag at the top.



Lining:

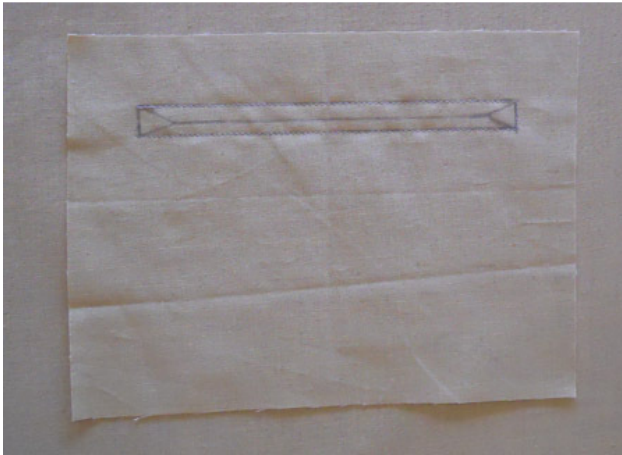
One side has a cell phone pocket, and the other, a zippered pocket.

To make the cell phone pocket, with right sides together sew around three sides of the cell phone pocket pieces. Trim corners and turn right sides out. Tuck in the remaining seam allowances and press well.

Position the cell phone pocket on one of the side lining panels, off-centre and about 3 inches down from the top.

Pin and topstitch down each side and across the bottom to finish.

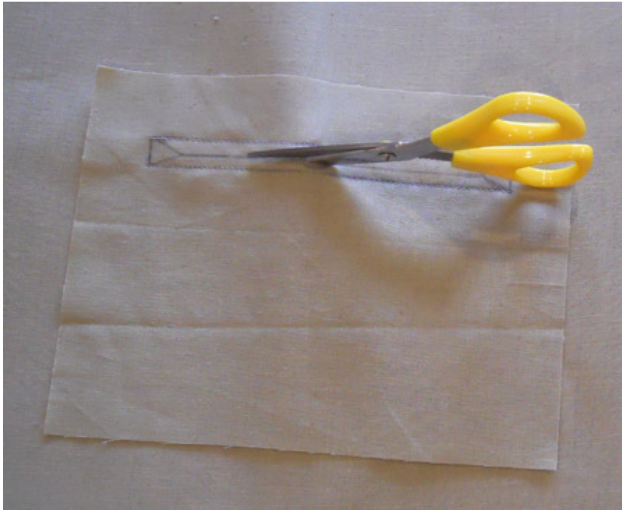
Now insert the zippered pocket on the remaining lining side panel. (The how-to pictures below are from a different bag, but you insert the zip in exactly the same way.)



To start, mark and make a hole for the zip. To do this, use a fabric marking pen or lead pencil on the wrong side of one pocket piece and draw a rectangle 5 inches long and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch (1cm) high as shown. This rectangle needs to be drawn at least 1 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (2.5 - 4cm) down from the top of your pocket piece.

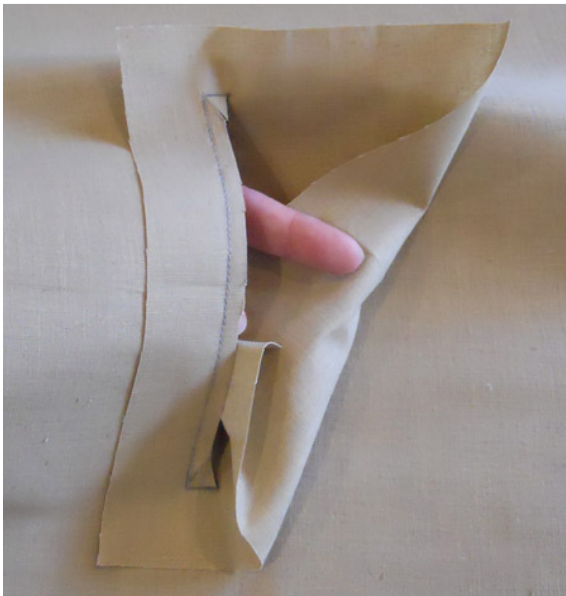
Then draw a centre line along the rectangle, with a 'V' shape at each end as shown.

Position the pocket piece on the right side of the remaining bag lining panel, centred and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches down from the top raw edge.



Sew together along the marked outside lines of the rectangle.

Taking care not to cut the stitching, then cut along the marked centre line and along the 'V' shapes to the corners of the rectangle.



Pull the pocket piece through the hole to the wrong side of the pocket panel and carefully press seams on both sides to flatten.

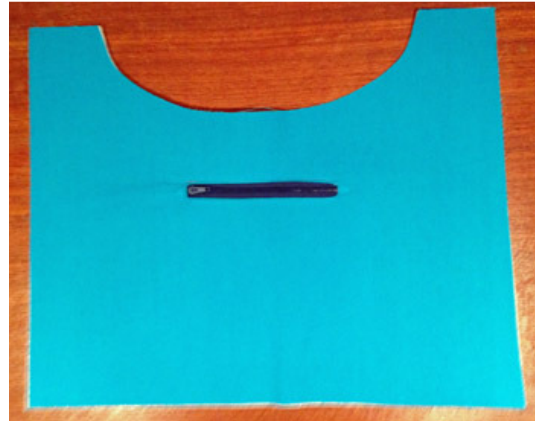
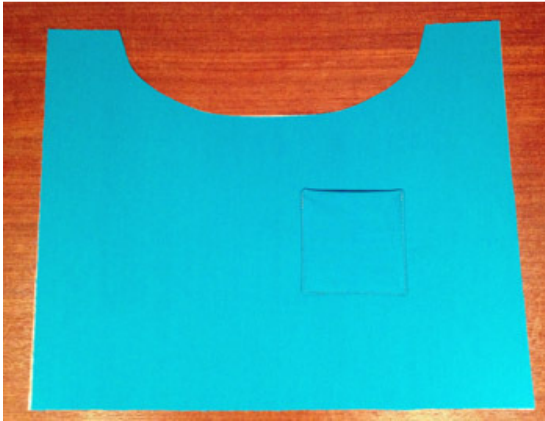
With right sides up, then position the zip carefully under the hole, (so that the zip is also facing up), and pin in place. Using your zipper foot, topstitch around all four edges of the rectangular hole to secure the zip in position.

(Note – the zip is slightly longer than the hole, so you will need to centre the zip and trim the ends after sewing in place.)



To finish the pocket, turn the panel over so that the wrong sides are facing up, and lay the remaining pocket piece face down on top of the first.

Pin all edges together and carefully sew all sides of the pocket together, taking care not to catch the bag panel as you go.



Assemble the lining in exactly the same way as you did the bag outer. Sew the sides together and insert the base. Add the strap, and then place the lining into the bag outer.

Pin around the top edges and sew the layers together with a scant seam.



Close the magnetic clasp as shown, to help with placement for the tab on the back inner side of the bag.

With the tab closed, pin the other end of the tab to the inside of the bag on the back centre.

Unclasp and sew the tab to the bag with a scant seam.



The final step is to bind the raw edges at the top of the bag.

Cut sufficient 2¼ inch width strips from one of your fabrics. (We used 5 strips x the width of the Fat Quarter.)

Join strips with 45 degree angles and trim seam allowances and press seams open. Fold the strip in half with wrong sides together as you would for quilt binding, and press.

Sew the binding to the right side of the bag, matching raw edges.




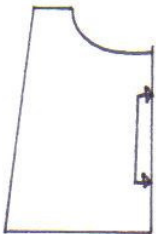

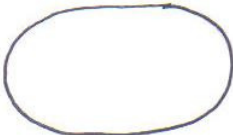
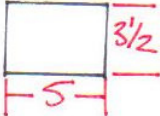
Flip it over to the back firmly and pin in place.

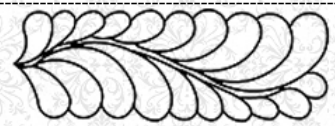
You can hand sew this binding in place if you'd prefer, but we used a matching dark thread and carefully machine stitched it down, sewing just in the seam on the front side, which caught the binding on the back.

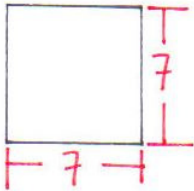
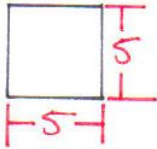





Bohemian Bucket Bag Cutting Guide

	<p>Cut the required number of each piece according to the measurements on each diagram.</p> <p>* Please note – all measurements are in inches.</p>
 <p>Bag Side Template</p>	<p>(Piece 2 outer fabric)</p> <p>Cut 2 lining fabric</p> <p>Cut 2 medium-weight interfacing</p> <p>Cut 2 batting/wadding</p> <p>Cut 2 backing – see instructions – doesn't need to be accurately cut.</p>
 <p>Bag Strap Template</p>	<p>(Piece 1 outer fabric)</p> <p>Cut 1 lining fabric</p> <p>Cut 1 medium-weight interfacing</p> <p>Cut 1 batting/wadding</p> <p>Cut 1 backing – see instructions – doesn't need to be accurately cut.</p>
 <p>Bag Base Template</p>	<p>(Piece 1 outer fabric)</p> <p>Cut 2 lining fabric</p> <p>Cut 1 medium-weight interfacing</p> <p>Cut 1 batting/wadding</p> <p>Cut 1 backing – see instructions – doesn't need to be accurately cut.</p> <p>Cut 1 template plastic</p>
 <p>Tab</p>	<p>Cut 1 outer fabric</p> <p>Cut 1 batting/wadding measuring 1½ x 3 inches</p>

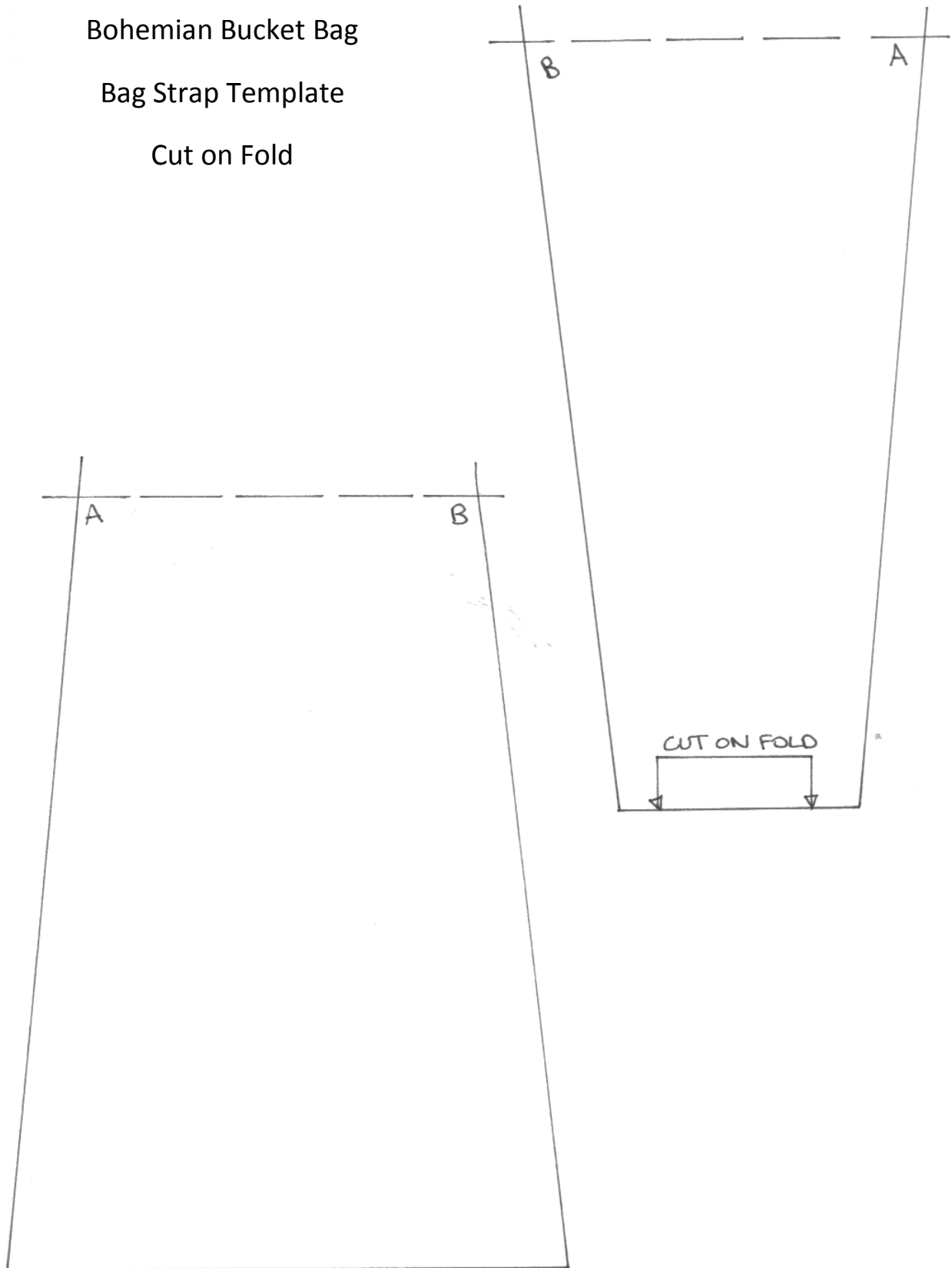


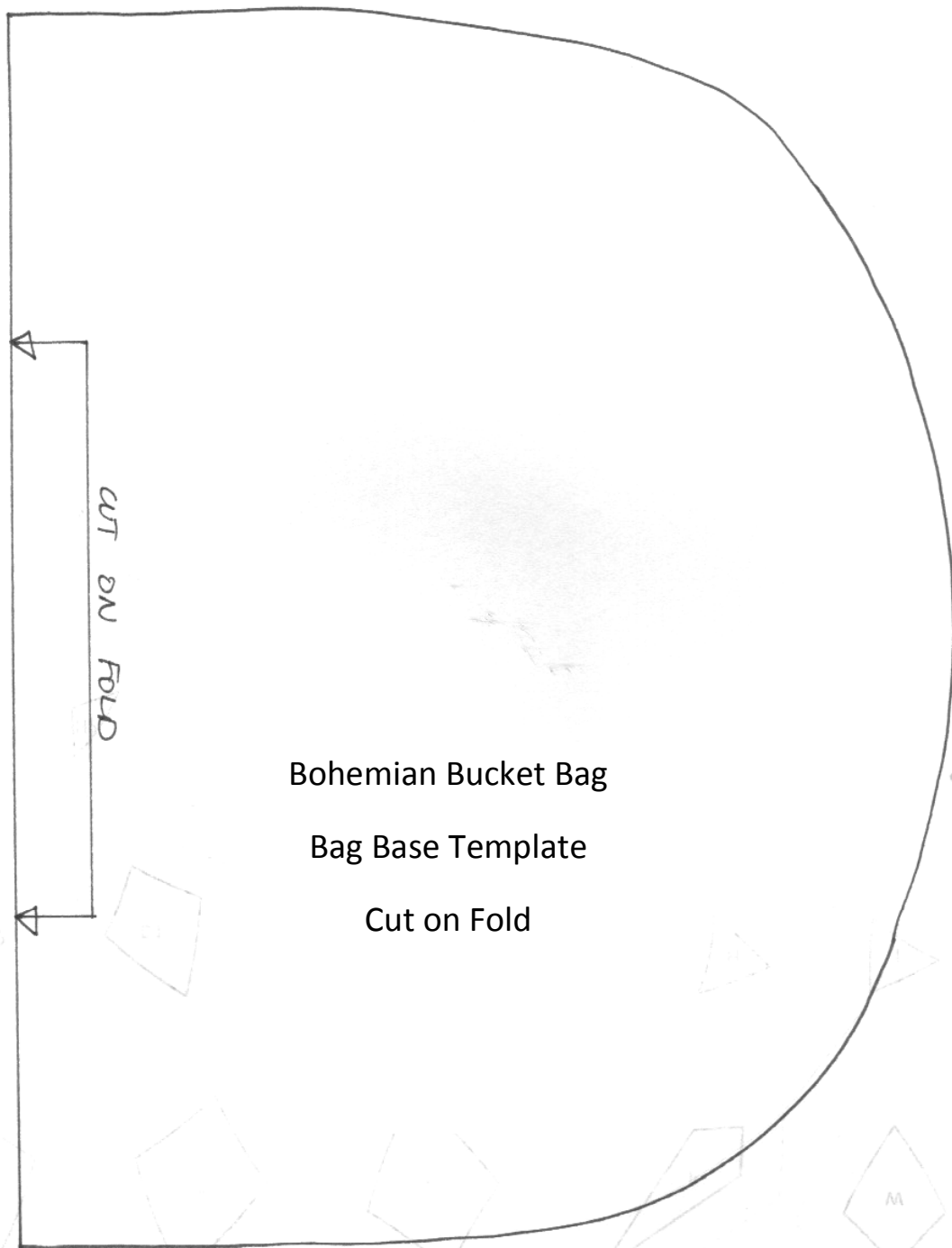
 <p>Zip Pocket</p>	<p>Cut 2 lining fabric</p>
 <p>Cell Phone Pocket</p>	<p>Cut 2 lining fabric Cut 1 medium-weight interfacing</p>
 <p>Binding</p>	<p>Cut sufficient outer fabric strips (Note – you will need to join a few strips to get the required length.)</p>

Bohemian Bucket Bag

Bag Strap Template

Cut on Fold





Bohemian Bucket Bag

Bag Base Template

Cut on Fold

Bohemian Bucket Bag

Bag Side Template

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Cut on Fold

Bohemian Bucket Bag

Bag Side Template

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Cut on Fold

