Quilted Evening Bag

Whip up this fun quilted little bag for your next night out on the town! This small shoulder bag is quilted and fully lined, with contrast piping, a zippered top, and a chain strap for a touch of bling.



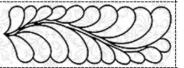
Our Bag measures 8 inches wide x 5 ½ inches high and is 2 inches deep.

You Will Need:

1/2 metre (1/2 yard) fabric for bag outer

Fat Quarter or equivalent for bag lining

Small amount of contrasting fabric for the piping



FQ equivalent of medium-weight fusible interfacing

¼ metre batting

60 inch length of thin cotton piping cord

1 x zip, approx. 17 inches in length

2 x "O" rings with a small (¾ inch) inner diameter

Length of chain (to suit you) for the handle (Ours was 1 metre /40 inches long)

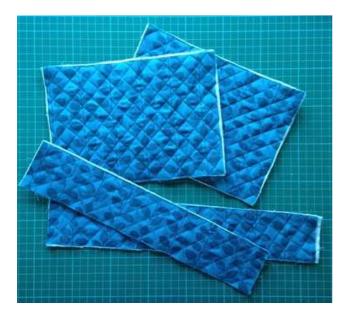
Useful - a jeans needle for your machine

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, batting and interfacing as required. Fuse the interfacing on the wrong side of the lining pieces.

Quilting:

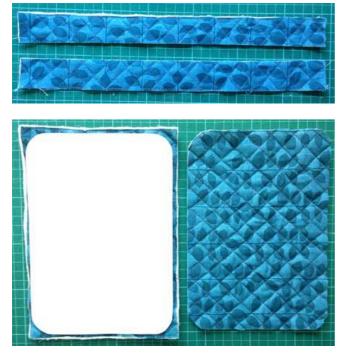


To start, you need to quilt your bag outer pieces.

Place one of the outer fabric front/back panels face down on a flat surface. Lay the batting on top, then position one more fabric panel on top, with the right side up.

Smooth the layers and pin together. Do this with the other front/ back pair of panels and also the gusset and zip strips.

We quilted ours in a diagonal ¾ inch grid, but quilt yours as you wish.



When quilted, cut the zip strip in half lengthways as shown, so you end up with two strips 13 inches long x 1¼ inches wide.

Use the attached front/back template to trim the front and back quilted panels to shape, as shown.

Assembly:

If required, join the contrast fabric lengths into one long strip before you cover your piping cord.

Place the piping cord down the centre of the strip and fold over the sides to enclose the cord. Use your zipper foot and matching thread to sew as closely as you can to the cord, to cover it.



When your cord is covered in your contrast fabric, start in the middle of the bottom and sew it to both the front and back quilted panels.

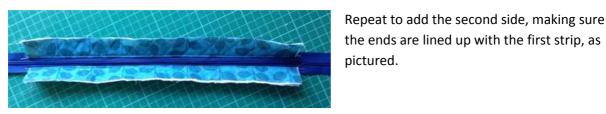
Use your zipper foot and ease it around the corners as you sew it to the right side of both panels.

As shown, pull the ends off the edge when you start and stop, to reduce bulk in the seams.



Now insert the zip. Your zipper is longer than you need for this bag, but it's easier to sew this way, then trim it later.

Lay one zip strip right sides together with the zipper, matching raw edges. Use your zipper foot to sew the pieces together, then open out and topstitch along that seam to flatten it and catch the quilted edge underneath.







the ends are lined up with the first strip, as pictured.

Fold the tabs in half along the 2 inch side and make a crease, then open out and fold each side in to meet that centre crease.

Re-fold, so each tab has four thicknesses of fabric, and is 11/2 inches long. NOTE - our "O" rings were quite skinny – if yours are larger or fatter, extend the length of your tabs to suit. (For example – instead of 11/2 inches long, extend to 2 inches long.)

Loop each tab through an "O" ring and sew the ends together with a scant seam.

As shown, sew the "O" ring tabs to the right side of each end of the gusset strip. Make sure they are centred, and sew with a scant seam.



Next, join the zipper strip to the gusset.

With right sides together, sew the zipper strip to the gusset at each end. MAKE SURE you open the zipper part way first!

Trim the excess zip tape ends.

Fold this circle of fabric to find the centre points at both top (zipper) and bottom (middle of the gusset strip), then fold one of your front/back panels to find the corresponding centre points.

Align the centre points and pin well with right sides together. Using your zipper foot, carefully sew the gusset/zip strip to the front/back panel.

Open the zipper, then repeat to sew the remaining front/back panel to the other side of the gusset/zip strip.

Turn right sides out.

Lining:

This is a drop in style of lining.

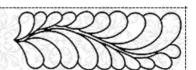
When you have fused the interfacing to the wrong side of all pieces, cut the zip strip in half lengthways as you did for the bag outer. Fold over a ¼ inch seam allowance along the cut side on each strip and press under.

Matching the outer edges, sew the zip strips to the gusset strip as you did for the bag outer. You should have a gap in the middle of the zip strip side where the zip will fit when you insert your lining.

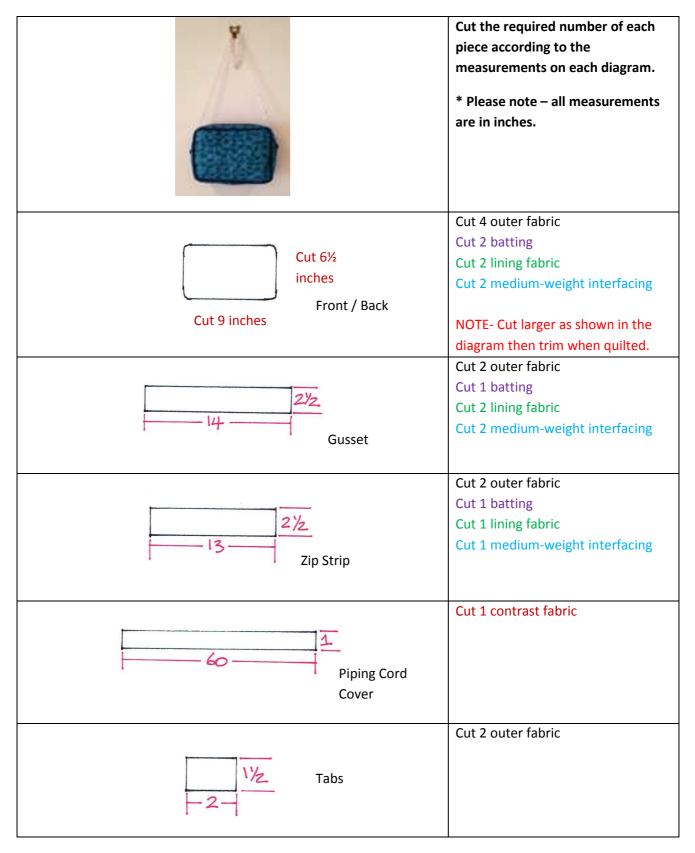
In exactly the same way as you did for the bag outer, pin the gusset/zip strip to the front and back panels and sew together.

Insert the lining into the bag and pin in place along the zip opening. Hand sew the lining to either side of the zipper tape inside the bag to secure your lining and finish the bag.

All that remains now is to attach your chain strap to the "O" rings (you may need pliers to bend the end chain loops), and you're ready for that big night out!



Quilted Evening Bag Cutting Guide



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Front/Back Template