

Mercedes Satchel Bag

www.craftygemini.com

© 2016 Crafty Gemini LLC. All rights reserved.

This pattern is the March 2017 project in the 2017 Crafty Gemini Video Bag of the Month Club.

*This pattern cannot be photocopied, emailed, scanned, or distributed in any form without written consent from Crafty Gemini LLC.

Supplies & Materials:

- 3/4 yard yard outer fabric
- 3/4 yard of lining fabric
- 1/2 yard of additional lining fabric
- 1 fat quarter (18" x 22" piece of fabric) for interior zipper pocket bag
- 1 or 2 coordinating fat quarters (18" x 22" piece of fabric) for exterior pocket bag and flap
- 1/4 yard of fabric for making shoulder straps.
- 1 pack of 18" x 58" of Bosal In-R-Form Foam Stabilizer
- 1 pack of 36" x 46" Bosal Fashion Fuse (fusible woven interfacing)
- Four 1" inch metal rectangular rings
- One 18mm or 20mm magnetic snap for exterior pocket flap closure
- One 24" (or longer) handbag zipper with double zipper pulls
- One (or two) 10" (or longer) zipper for interior zipper pocket(s)
- A 3" x 4" piece of non-fraying and sturdy fabric for shoulder strap connectors (i.e. - cork fabric, vinyl, faux leather, etc.)
- A new 90/14 universal sewing machine needle
- 100% polyester thread is what I recommend for handbag making especially for construction.
- Coordinating thread & basic sewing supplies

Pattern Pieces:

** Please be sure you download the PDF with the template pieces to your computer first. Do not print directly from the open file. You need to open the file specifically with Adobe PDF Reader to make sure the measurements remain to scale and then print. Your printer setting should be set to print at 100%.

Here is the diagram for how your pieces should come together:

- There should be a total of 5 template pieces and you don't need to print out the last page of the document as it is just a diagram as shown here ----->

Assembly Guide



Quilting fabric panels (optional):

- 1) Please reference Videos #2A and #2B for detailed instructions and tips for an easy and straightforward way to quilt your fabric panels before cutting out your template pieces. If you do not wish to quilt your fabric panels you can smooth the fabric over the foam pieces (cut to size) and baste 1/8" away from the edges all around the pieces to hold the layers together before proceeding with bag construction.
- 2) If quilting your individual panel pieces after they are cut down to size you should cut the outer fabric, foam and lining fabrics to the following sizes for easier handling and quilting on a domestic sewing machine:
 - Two squares at 13" x 13" of outer fabric, foam & lining fabric (for bag front & back)
 - One rectangle at 6.5" x 24" of outer fabric, foam and lining fabric (for bottom bag panel)
 - One rectangle at 6.5" x 25" of outer fabric, foam and lining fabric.
- 3) After quilting the panels as listed above then use your pattern template pieces to cut the front, back, bottom panel and zip flaps from the pre-quilted fabric.

Cutting:

- 1) Cut two of front and back panel from pre-quilted fabric.
- 2) Optional: If adding zippered pocket panels to interior cut one (or two) fabric pieces from front & back pattern piece, then back with fusible woven interfacing.
- 3) Cut one of bottom panel from pre-quilted fabric.
- 4) Cut one (and cut along fold line) of zipper flap from pre-quilted fabric.
- 5) Cut 2 pieces of pocket flap fabric and back them with woven fusible interfacing
- 6) Cut 2 pieces of front pocket fabric and back them with woven fusible interfacing
- 7) Cut one fabric square for interior zipper pocket at 12" x 16".
- 8) Cut one square of binding fabric at 18" x 18".
- 9) Cut 2 strips of shoulder strap fabric at 3" x WOF (width of fabric)
- 10) Cut two fabric strips at 1.5" x 6.5" for covering interior side seams.

Directions:

- 1) If you're making interior stand along zippered pocket panels you can prep them now. If you don't want the stitching of the shoulder straps to appear on the inside of the bag when finished you will want to sew the straps to the outer panel before adding an interior zippered pocket. The order of the steps you take in constructing your handbag can be personal preference and vary so please reference the video lessons for a visual of what I mean.
- 2) **Make the exterior pocket with magnetic snap closure and set pieces aside:**
 - 1) Take one interfaced pocket flap piece (the lining) fold in half and mark center.
 - 2) Measure 1" up from the bottom curved edge and mark in center.
 - 3) Install male end of magnetic snap at that point. Back with a 1" x 1" square piece of scrap foam stabilizer and add metal washer if it came with your snap.
 - 4) Take remaining interfaced pocket flap piece (the outer) and if you're wanting to embroider on it do so now before proceeding.
 - 5) Lay pocket flap outer and pocket flap lining pieces together with pretty sides touching and sew around all sides using a 1/4" seam allowance making sure to leave a 3" opening along the top straight edge for turning.
 - 6) Trim excess bulk in seam allowance, flip out through opening, press and topstitch along bottom three sides of flap. Leave the top straight edge unstitched. Set aside.

- 7) Take exterior front pocket piece, fold in half and mark center.
- 8) Measure 2" down from center point along top straight edge of pocket and mark.
- 9) Install the female end of magnetic snap here just as you did the male end.
- 10) Lay both pocket pieces pretty sides touching and sew around all sides leaving a 3" opening along top straight edge. Trim excess seam allowance, turn right side out, press and topstitch only across the top straight edge.
- 11) Watch Video #10 for details on how to mark outer panel for centering pocket. **Remember to sew outer front pocket **before** you add any lining pockets to the bag so you don't sew through your zippered (or other) pocket.

3) Inside zippered pocket:

- 1) Take interfaced panel of separate lining fabric and the 12" x 16" piece of pocket fabric and fold both in half to find center point at top edge of pieces.
- 2) Line up lining piece and pocket fabric pretty sides touching so the pocket fabric is on top and the center points are matching and top pocket edge is 2" down from top edge of lining panel. Place a few pins to hold it in place and proceed to draw out the 1/2" x 9" box on the wrong side of the pocket fabric as show in Video #6.
- 3) Install 10" zipper in the opening and finish it up by top stitching around the box and sewing up the pocket bag on the back side of the lining panel.
- 4) If you'd like to install 2 zippered panels in the interior of the bag then repeat the steps to create another one of these lining panels.
- 5) Set panels aside until *after* you attached shoulder straps if you want to hide the shoulder strap stitching in between the layers so they don't appear on the lining zippered panel. If you don't mind the stitching then you can go ahead and baste the lining panel with installed zipper pocket at this point by laying it on one of your front/back panel pieces so the zipper pocket will be on the inside lining and sew 1/8" around all the sides to hold the pieces together.

4) Making shoulder straps and hardware connectors:

- 1) Cut two fabric strips at 3" x width of fabric. Trim selvages and sew ends together to make one continuous strip.
- 2) Cut 7/8" wide strips of foam stabilizer and zig zag stitch them together to create one long strip the length of your fabric strip.
- 3) Watch Videos #11 and #12 for step by step instructions on how I make my fabric handles.
- 4) Then cut the long handle strip down into two lengths depending on your preferred finished shoulder strap length. I cut mine down to two straps at 34" long.
- 5) Make connectors from a non-fraying fabric like cork or vinyl by cutting two strips at 1" x 3" and feed through 1" rectangular metal rings. For suggested measurements on where to attach them to the front and back panels of the bag watch Videos #12 and #13.
- 6) Feed short ends of handles through the rectangular ring and back onto itself by folding the raw edge under 1/2" and then sewing it down to itself in a 1" x 1" box for reinforcement. Repeat to all four metal rectangular rings and ends of shoulder straps. Watch Video #13 for details.

5) Main Zipper Panel:

- 1) To create the main zipper panel please reference Video #14 to see which edge of the zipper flap needs to be sewn to the zipper tape side. The sides can be easily mistaken and swapped around so a visual is the best way for you to keep your pieces straight.
- 2) Don't forget to topstitch the zipper tape seam allowance downwards the lining of your bag.

Zipper Panel & Bottom Panel Construction:

- 1) Sew short ends of completed main zipper panel to the short ends of the bottom panel by using the tips mentioned in Video #15.
- 2) Be sure to keep the curve shape in that seam allowance when connecting the two ends of the zipper panel to the bottom panel. You should end up with a large circle that will be used to connect the front and back panels of the bag.
- 3) Cut two small fabric strips of fabric along crosswise grain to make little binding strip used to cover the raw edges of the seam allowance from sewing the zipper flap to the bottom gusset. See Video #16 for details.

Making bottom sleeve:

- 1) Cut a piece of fabric at 6" x 11". Fuse woven fusible interfacing to the back of it.
- 2) Fold short ends 1/4" towards the wrong side of the fabric, press. Refold again another 1/4" and press. Top stitch that hem down and repeat on opposite short end.
- 3) Fold sleeve in half and mark. Find center mark of bottom panel piece and line up sleeve on it so center marks match. Sew sleeve to bottom panel only along the long edges about 1/8" away from edges to secure in position.

Making Bias Binding:

- 1) Take your square piece of binding fabric at 18" x 18" fold along the diagonal twice and cut bias strips as shown in Video #18 to create one continuous bias strip. Do not press in half. Simply, fold up in half lengthwise and place pins every 4" perpendicular to the raw edges of the folded strip. Set aside.

Bag Construction:

- 1) Once you have any and all interior lining pockets and panels completed and the shoulder strap connectors and straps have been sewn to the main bag panels then go ahead and baste your lining panels (i.e.- zipper pockets, etc.) to the front and/or back panels of your bag using an 1/8" seam allowance.
- 2) Then you are ready to sew the front and back panels to the middle panel (made up of zipper panel and bottom panel).
- 3) Always find centers of pieces you are sewing together first. Find and mark center of front bag panel and find center of zipper panel (at top) and bottom panel (at the bottom) and clip in place so centers line up.
- 4) With the front panel and zipper panel on top of each other with pretty sides touching place clips all around the edge easing in any excess at the rounded edges. Sew together using a 1/4" seam allowance. Be sure to take your time, change to a new 90/14 universal needle if needed and go slow. You can also use a stiletto, awl or chopstick to help guide your fabric through the machine. See Video #19 for details and close up shots of this.
- 5) After you attach one side of the bag you will need to bind those raw seams before you can attach the second side. Watch Videos #20 and #21 for details instructions as well as tips. Remember to use a coordinating thread so you don't see any mistakes as much. Breathe and take your time. You can do it!
- 6) After you have bound the raw seams on one side repeat the process to attach the other side in the same way. You will also bind those seams.
- 7) Insert a piece of hard acrylic, thick template plastic, cardboard, foam board, etc. in the sleeve before flipping the handbag right side out. Press out all seams and give it a good press or steam press. Ta-dah! Your new Mercedes Satchel Bag is complete!