Adrianne Messenger Bag
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This pattern is the May 2017 project in the 2017 Crafty Gemini Video Bag of the Month Club.

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**Supplies & Materials:**
- 1/2 - 3/4 yard outer fabric (front & back panels)
- 1/2 - 3/4 yard lining fabric (front & back panels)
- 2 fat quarters or 1/2 yard fabric for interior laptop compartment
- 1 fat quarter for interior zippered pocket bag
- 2 fat quarters for bag flap
- 1 fat quarter for binding
- 1/4 yard of fabric for adjustable cross body strap
- 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)
- Two 1” inch metal rectangular rings or d-rings
- One 1” inch metal slider
- One 10” (or longer) zipper
- One 7” x 7” square of a non-fraying fabric (i.e.- cork, vinyl, faux leather, ribbon, etc.)
- A new 90/14 or 100/16 denim sewing machine needle
- 40 weight, 100% polyester thread is what I recommend for handbag making especially for construction.
- Plastic clips (i.e.- wonder clips) for bulky seams.
- Coordinating thread & quilting rulers and other basic sewing supplies
- Optional: Pinking shears

**Pattern Pieces:**
**Please be sure you download the PDF with the template piece 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 1 template piece and you only need to print out one page . It is just a diagram as shown here ————>

**Finished messenger bag measures approx.: 14” x 11.5” x 3.5”**
Quilting fabric panels (optional):

1) Please reference Video #2 for instructions and tips on easy and straightforward ways 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 you should cut the outer fabric, foam and lining fabrics to the following sizes before quilting for easier handling and quilting on a domestic sewing machine: [Note: Sizes listed below are for making a messenger bag for a 14” laptop. Adjust measurements according to the size laptop you plan to carry in this bag.] Fabric pieces listed below are ONLY the ones that need to be quilted. See section on Cutting below for details on all cutting.

   • Bag front panel- One rectangle at 11” x 16” of each: outer fabric, foam and lining fabric
   • Bag back panel- One rectangle at 11” x 16” of each: outer fabric, foam and lining fabric
   • Bag flap- One square at 16” x 16” of each: outer fabric and foam.
   • Laptop compartment- One rectangle at 11” x 18” of each: fabric and foam.

3) After quilting the panels as listed above then proceed to cut them down to the sizes needed for your bag size. For my 14” laptop I cut my front and back panels to 10” x 15” because I sew very scant 1/4” seams. [Note: You may choose to make your panels longer if you sew big 1/4” seams or if your machine struggles with bulky seams. If that is the case be sure to start with 11” x 16” pieces instead; the laptop compartment is later cut down to 10” x 17” (or however long is needed to accommodate the bulk of the laptop) and the bag flap is cut down to 15” x 15”.

Cutting:

1) Cut one quilted front panel and one quilted back panel to width x length you’ve decided on for your bag based on laptop measurements. (Measurement tip: Measure laptop and add 2” to length and 1” to height measurement to be safe. For example, for a 9” x 14” laptop cut your panels to 10” x 16” to allow for seam allowance accommodation especially if you sew wide seams.)

2) Cut one quilted gusset panel to 4.5”- 6” x at least 35” in length. If you need to piece gusset pieces to make the full length you can do that too. [I cut mine at 4.5” x 35”.] See Video #2 for details.

3) Cut one quilted laptop compartment panel to 10” x 17” (if sewing scant 1/4” seams and you have a thin laptop.) Consider cutting this panel to 10” x 18” or 19” if you have a thicker laptop to allow it to fit in the compartment.

4) Cut one piece of laptop compartment lining fabric to the same size as quilted laptop compartment panel. (In my case, 10” x 17”). Fuse a piece of woven fusible interfacing cut to the same size to the back of this fabric piece.

5) Cut one fabric square for interior zipper pocket bag at 14” x 16”.

6) Cut one quilted bag flap piece at 15” x 15” (size may vary based on bag size you are making.)

7) Cut one bag flap lining fabric (with woven fusible interfacing fused to the back of it) at 15” x 15” (size may vary based on bag size you are making.)

8) Cut one fabric square for binding at 12” x 12”.

9) Cut 2 connector pieces on the fold from the pattern template piece from the non-fraying fabric (cork, vinyl, faux leather, ribbon, etc.)

10) Cut 2 strips of shoulder strap fabric at 4” x WOF (width of fabric) and back with strips of woven fusible interfacing.
Directions:

• Starting with quilted panels:
  1) Determine width x length for your bag panels depending on the laptop you plan to use it for and cut a front panel and a back panel. as explained in the videos.
  2) Determine how wide you want the gusset. I used 4.5” wide gusset strip. Cut gusset from pre quilted fabric also.

• Sewing front panel to gusset:
  3) Baste 1/8” away from all raw edges of your quilted panels: the front panel, the back panel and the gusset.
  4) If you are piecing your gusset go ahead and do so now and bind the seam as shown in Video #2.
  5) Mark centers on all your quilted panels- front, back and gusset.
  6) Aligning the center marks on the gusset and the front panel. Pin along raw edges with pretty sides touching and sew together using a scant 1/4” seam. Make sure to back stitch at the beginning and end.
  7) Flip the front panel and gusset out to expose the exterior fabrics and pinch together the seam you just sewed. Place clips and then go back and re-sew that seam from the right side of the fabrics at 1/4” seam allowance to encase the raw edges of the first seam you sewed.

• Zipper pocket for laptop compartment:
  1) Take stabilized laptop compartment piece of fabric piece that measures 10” x 17” and fold in half lengthwise. Mark center.
  2) Take pocket bag piece (cut at 14” x 16”) and fold in half widthwise (along the short side) and mark center.
  3) Lay laptop compartment fabric vertically in front of you with pretty side face up. Then place the pocket fabric panel on top of it with pretty sides touching and raw edges and center marks matching up on your left hand side.
  4) Next measure 1 1/4” to the right of the raw edge that both panels are touching each other on. Draw a line at least 10” in length across.
  5) Slide ruler down to draw another line just 1/2” to the right of the first line. Mark line across panel.
  6) Center 5” mark on ruler in center and finish drawing the sides to create a centered rectangular box that measures 1/2” x 10” and is centered on the panel and begins 1 1/4” down from the top of the panels.
  7) Sew around the 1/2” x 10” box. Cut inside with rotary cutter making sure to cut a Y shape on the short ends. Flip pocket bag fabric through the opening and press to make sure all pocket bag fabric is on the lining side of the zippered panel.
  8) Place zipper underneath opening with zipper teeth face up and top stitch around to secure. Trim excess zipper tape.
  9) Sew up pocket bag by folding the pocket bag panel up onto itself (pretty sides touching) and sewing around 3 sides at 1/4” seam allowance.

• Finishing laptop compartment:
  1) Lay quilted laptop compartment panel (10” x 17”) and zippered panel on top of each other with pretty sides touching.
  2) Sew 1/4” seam down both long sides of the panels. Back stitch at beginning and end.
  3) Flip the laptop compartment out through the open ends and press.
  4) Top stitch along both long sides of the panel.
5) Baste both short sides of the panel.
6) Measure 1.5” in from right and left sides (or whatever measurement you determined based on how thick your laptop is) of the panel and stitch a line straight down both sides.

**Sewing back panel to gusset:**

1) Grab the quilted back panel, the gusset and laptop compartment.
2) Center laptop compartment and put clips in place along gusset sides only. You want to orient the laptop compartment panel so that the zipper is upright and facing the back of the front panel.
3) Use clips to secure the back panel to the gusset panel. Sew back panel to gusset (use scant 1/4” seam) with pretty sides touching making sure you catch the laptop compartment panel along both sides of the bag. Be sure to keep laptop compartment panel at least 1/4” down from the top edge of the bag. Then flip that seam out and topstitch from the outside part to conceal the raw seams just as you did when you attached the front panel to gusset.

**Making & Attaching Bias Binding:**

1) Take square piece of binding fabric at 12” x 12” and cut 2.5” wide bias strips as shown in Video # 10 and sew together to create one continuous bias binding strip. Press, trim dog ears and press in half lengthwise. Set aside.
2) Start along the front or back panel of the bag and sew binding on with raw edges of binding matched up with raw edges along top edge of bag. Finish binding ends and either hand sew or machine sew the binding into position. Please watch Video #10 for the detailed instructions.

**Making & Attaching Bag Flap:**

1) Take 15” x 15” quilted bag flap and lay it pretty sides touching with the corresponding lining fabric that has been interfaced. Both should measure the same.
2) Sew all the way around and leave a 5” opening on a straight side of the panel.
3) Trim excess fabric from corners and press.
4) Flip flap out through opening and press.
5) Topstitch 1/8” away from the edges.
6) On the back panel of the bag measure 3” down from the top edge. Fold corners in on your flap and place along that line. See Videos #8 and #9 for detailed instructions.
7) Place a few corsage/heavy duty pins to hold it in place and sew flap to the back panel. Make sure it is centered.
8) Optional: Attach rivets along back panel and flap for extra bling!

**Attaching strap connectors & strap:**

1) Cut two strap connectors from your non-fraying fabric using the PDF pattern template piece that was provided for you.
2) Slip one 1” rectangular ring through each connector and position centered on side gussets of bag and topstitch through the connector’s both layers and the quilted gusset panel of the bag.
3) Cut 2 fabric strips at 4” x width of fabric of your shoulder strap fabric. Trim selvages from strips and piece them together to make a continuous strip. Follow instructions as detailed in Videos #13 & #14 on how to make the strap and install it with the metal slider using the rectangular rings we attached to the connectors.
4) Optional: You can install strap connectors using rivets for more added stability and bling!

That’s it! Congrats!