



CRAFTY GEMINI PATTERNS

Jorja Mini Tote Bag

Finished measurements: 11" x 9" x 5.75"



Main supplies

- Exterior fabric (cotton, denim, canvas, etc.): ½ yd
- Lining + Pocket fabric (cotton): ½ yd
- Flap fabric (same as exterior fabric OR scrap piece): 4" x 8"
- 1" wide webbing: 1 yd
- Magnetic snap or KAM snaps for closure
- Lightweight fusible batting, quilt batting OR Dura Fuse
- Cotton woven fusible interfacing (for pocket & flap)
- Rotary cutter + cutting mat
- Ironing + ironing board
- Basic sewing supplies including scissors, plastic sewing clips, pins, fabric marker, etc.
- Sewing machine
- Size 80/12 or 90/14 universal, topstitch or denim sewing machine needle
- All-purpose polyester thread: 40-50 weight recommended.
- Optional: wooden tailor's clapper, pinkining shears

Fabric & Interfacing Cutting Directions:

- Cut 1 exterior fabric @ 14" x 23"
- Cut 1 lining fabric @ 14" x 23"
- Cut 1 light fusible batting @ 14" x 23"
- Cut 1 lining fabric (for pocket) @ 4.5" x 9.5"
- Cut 2 pieces of lining fabric (for binding corners) @ 1.5" x 2.5"
- Cut 1 fusible interfacing (for pocket) @ 4.5" x 9.5"
- Cut 2 pieces of 1" wide webbing @ 15"
- Cut 2 rectangles of fabric for flap @ 3 ½" x 7"
- Cut 1 fusible interfacing for flap @ 3 ½" x 7"

Directions:

Set up:

1. Fuse light fusible batting to wrong side of exterior fabric.
2. Cut webbing into two 15" pieces.

Place webbing for handles:

1. Find center on short sides of interfaced exterior panel. Measure and mark 2" to left AND right of center.
2. Place raw edge of webbing flush with raw fabric edge at marks. Place clips. Make sure there are NO twists.
3. Repeat on opposite end of interfaced exterior panel and baste stitch both handles in place.
4. **Magnetic Snap:** If installing a magnetic snap for closure install the female end on the interfaced exterior panel now: measure and mark 3.5" down from one of the centers on one short end and install it there (will be the front of the bag).

Zipper Pocket:

1. Fuse cotton woven fusible interfacing to the back of the 4.5" x 9.5" piece of pocket fabric.
2. Sew zipper to one short edge of fabric (pretty sides touching), press seam allowance down towards fabric, press and then topstitch to keep seam allowance flat.
3. Bring remaining short end of fabric to remaining edge of zipper tape and sew, press and topstitch just as you did before.
4. Press the pocket flat so there is about 3/4" of fabric showing above the zipper tape. Press well to crease fabric.
5. Flip pocket wrong side out and sew down the open sides with 1/4" seam allowance to close it up making sure to preserve the fabric crease closest to the zipper teeth. Trim away excess zipper tape on both sides and finish the edges with zig zag stitch or pinking shears. Flip pocket right side out through zipper. Press as flat as possible.
6. Baste stitch the top of the zipper pocket, centered to one short end of the lining fabric.

Construct:

1. Place lining fabric and exterior panel/handles together with pretty sides touching.
2. Sew down both short ends only with 3/8" seam allowance.
3. Pull open both fabrics and match seam intersections on both sides. Sew down both long edges and leave a 4-5" opening along one side of the lining fabric.
4. Flip right side out through the hole. Press and sew hole shut by machine or hand.
5. Flip whole bag lining side out and press along all sides to make as flat as possible.
6. Bring side seams together so bottom of the bag makes triangles for boxing the corners.
7. Fold right side edge of triangle in towards the side seam and place clips. Repeat to left side of triangle. Make sure every fold is as smooth as possible.
8. Box corners by sewing 2" down from tip of triangle across all the folds. Repeat to opposite corner. Trim excess seam allowance 1/4" away from seam.
9. Zig zag stitch to finish edge or wrap with binding as shown in **Video 8**.

Directions (continued):

Top Pleats

- Measure and mark 1 ½" to left and right of outer edge of each handle.
- Then match side of webbing to the marks to make a small pleat. Place a clip to hold.
- Repeat to other side and other handle for 4 total pleats.
- Top stitch around top opening ¼" down from edge.

Flap closure:

- Cut 2 rectangles of fabric for flap @ 3 ½" x 7"
- Cut 1 fusible interfacing @ 3 ½" x 7"
- Fuse interfacing to one rectangle for flap underside. Then measure and mark center and ¾" up from one short end of the interfaced fabric. Install the male end of the magnetic snap there.
- Place both rectangles together with pretty sides touching and place pins.
- Place the flap template (see PDF template) on top so it is centered and ~¼" away from all 4 sides. Trace around the template excluding the straight end opposite the curve.
- Remove paper template and sew down both long edges and around curve – leave the end opposite the curve unstitched. Trim seam allowance down to 1/8" or use pinking shears only around the sides you sewed. The end opposite the curve should remain open.
- Flip right side out through the short end opposite the curve and press. Topstitch if desired.

Attach Flap:

- Place the raw short edge of the flap centered just below the topstitching line in between one handle (to be the back) with the curved end pointing down towards bottom of the bag AND the magnetic snap facing up. Sew across using a 1/16" - 1/8" seam allowance.
- Fold flap up (to conceal raw edges now) and topstitch again to secure flap.

Install plastic KAM snaps:

IF using KAM snaps for closure:

- Install the male end of a plastic snap at 1/2"- 3/4" up and centered from bottom of the curved end of bag flap.
- On the front of the bag install the female end 3"-3 ½" down and centered from one of the handles.

Enjoy your new Jorja Mini Tote Bag!