

Good afternoon ladies. I certainly pray that no one loses power due to the current wintery weather we're having. It's the perfect day to hunker down in our sewing rooms/sewing areas & enjoy the day doing what makes us happy!

With that being said, I have attached the pattern pieces you will need to prepare for our next guild program. I'll try to make this as simple/easy as possible but if anyone has any questions feel free to email &/or give me a call. There are a few changes I made (as outlined below) to what is printed on the pattern pieces, as some of these instructions were left off the printed pieces. Here goes!!!

Fabric - If using cotton you will need interfacing. If you are using a heavier fabric (canvas, etc.) you will not need interfacing.

Lining - Use cotton fabric

Interfacing - I used a midweight (NOT lightweight) fusible interfacing (at JoAnn's - Pellon #931TD). I tried a fusible lightweight batting (did NOT like it!) & Pellon SF101 (referred to in the instructions) & did not like this either. 1/2 yard of the midweight interfacing should be more than adequate for this bag. If you have a coupon it is very inexpensive.

Cutting instructions (NOTE: Be sure to follow the cutting instructions as respects cutting the pattern pieces on the lengthwise grain of the fabric as this insures that the bag has the adequate strength needed & does not stretch out of shape. For those who sew garments you know this is an important step in garment sewing.):

- ~ Pattern piece A (Flap Panel) - cut pieces as shown on the pattern. Fuse the interfacing to the fabric piece (not the lining piece).
- ~ Pattern piece C (Large Slip Pocket) - cut pieces as shown & cut 1 interfacing, Fuse the interfacing to the fabric piece (not the lining piece).
- ~ Pattern piece D (Small Slip Pocket) - same as piece C above.
- ~ Pattern piece E* (Purse Body Front) - cut pieces as shown on the pattern (note this is cut **on the fold**). Fuse the interfacing to the fabric piece (not the 2 lining pieces).
- ~ Pattern piece F* (Purse Body Bottom of Back) - cut pieces as shown on the pattern. Fuse the interfacing to the fabric piece.
- ~ Pattern piece G (Purse Body Top of Back) - cut pieces as shown on the pattern. Fuse the interfacing to the fabric piece.
- ~ Pattern piece B - (Bag handle) - I have not included this piece as we are going to make the handle in a different way from what was included in the original instructions):

Cut 4 pieces measuring 4.5"wide x 13.5"length (cut the 13.5" length on the lengthwise grain & not on the crosswise grain).

*Pattern piece E & F are shown on the same pattern piece.

If you would like to personalize the flap panel bring in some trims, lace, orphan quilt blocks (good idea from a guild member at the January meeting!), anything you have that you think will be a nice enhancement to the bag you are making.

Lastly, if you are using a directional print fabric be sure to keep this in mind when cutting out your pieces, especially the flap panel. The rounded ends will be at the bottom of the bag. I messed up the first bag I made because of this (go figure, right?!?!) & I didn't notice it until the bag was finished, so much too late to make a new flap. Just thought I'd try to keep y'all from making the same mistake.

And that should do it! If you have all these pieces cut & the interfacing fused we will be ready to start sewing these bags together.