



Easy Fabric Bag For All Your Gift-Giving Needs



Select 2 coordinating fabrics. One will be the outside and one the lining. You can use the same fabric for both, you can use a solid for the lining, or you can use 2 fun prints!



For this size bag (finished bag is about 5-3/4" wide and 8-1/2" tall), cut both fabrics 6-1/2" x 18". If you want a larger or smaller bag, you can vary the measurements.



Fold both fabrics right sides together and sew the side seams approximately 1/4" wide.



Turn under the raw, top edges and press flat.



Leave one bag inside out and turn the other right side out.



Slip the inside-out bag into the right-side out bag, matching the seams and top edges



Prepare the sewing machine for the next part by placing a piece of $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide Painter's tape with the right edge 3" from the needle.



Top stitch the top edge of the bags together.



Align the top edge of the bag to the left edge of the tape and stitch all the way around. This will make a seam 2-1/4" from the top edge of the bag.



Now align the top edge of the bag to the right edge of the tape and stitch all the way around. This will make a seam 3" from the top edge of the bag. It will also form a casing for the ribbon ties.



Use a seam ripper to carefully open the portion of both side seams in the casing formed by the last 2 steps. Be careful to only open the seam on the outside of the bag and not the lining.



Cut 2 lengths of ribbon or cord 24" long. Insert one length into the casing from one side and tie in a knot. You can use a safety pin or a bodkin to feed the ribbon.



Insert the second length into the casing from the other side and tie in a knot. To close the bag, pull both ends and tie in a bow. There are lots of variations on this bag: make it larger, smaller, thinner, or wider; use cording or heavy yarn to close; use one cord or two. The possibilities are endless!

