

## One Step Quilts - handbag and pouch

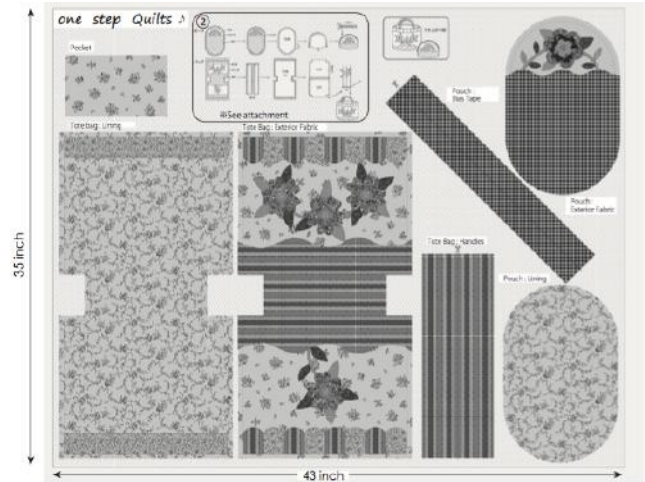
A sweet handbag and pouch pattern sewn from one yard of pre-printed fabric from Lecien.

### Fabric and notions:

- 1 yard of the One Step Quilts handbag and pouch fabric
- 1 yd fusible fleece, 20" wide
- 1 zipper, 12" long

### Cutting:

1. Cut out all pattern pieces from the fabric. Cut around the outer edge of each pattern piece, not on the dashed lines. The dashed lines are stitching lines.
2. Cut fusible fleece to match the tote bag and pouch exterior pieces, as well as the tote bag handle pieces.



### Sewing the Handbag

*All seam allowances are 1cm. A 1/2" seam allowance is also acceptable. See optional Pocket Instructions on page 6.*

### Preparation:

1. Fuse the fusible fleece to the wrong side of the tote bag exterior and handle pieces.
2. Hand or machine quilt the tote bag exterior piece, if desired. The example shown was machine quilted in a grid pattern.
3. Trim around the exterior piece to remove extra fusible fleece, if necessary.



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## Make the Handles

1. Fold the handle pieces lengthwise and sew along the long straight edge.
2. Turn the handles right side out using a safety pin or turning tool and press flat.
3. Topstitch along both sides of the handles 1/8" from the edge.



## Assemble the Tote Bag

1. Pin and one handle to each shorter edge of the tote bag exterior, 3" from each corner.
2. Place the lining over the exterior piece and handles, right side down. Pin and stitch along the shorter edges only. Press the seam allowances open.
3. Adjust the tote so that the lining is folded together and the exterior is folded together, with the shorter seams horizontally along the middle.
4. Pin the long side edges together. Note the opening about 3" long that is marked on the actual fabric lining piece in the seam allowance.
5. Sew the long side seams, leaving an opening about 3" long in the lining, as mentioned above. Press the seam allowances open.



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## Sew the Gussets

1. Flatten each corner of the bag, making a straight edge where there was a cut-out corner.
2. Pin and stitch across the straight edge. Repeat for the 2 corners in the exterior and the 2 corners in the lining.



## Finishing:

1. Turn the bag right side out through the opening in the lining.
2. Hand or machine sew the opening in the lining closed. Push the lining down into the bag.



3. Press the top edge of the bag gently. Topstitch around the bag 1/8" from the top edge.



## Sewing the Pouch

See optional Pocket Instructions on page 6.

### Preparation:

1. Fuse the fusible fleece to the wrong side of the pouch exterior.
2. Stitch the two printed bias strips together at an angle. Trim away the extra for a 1/4" seam allowance and press the seam open.
3. Press one edge to the wrong side by 1 cm (or 3/8").



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## Attach the Binding

1. Place the wrong side of the pouch lining against the wrong side of the pouch exterior.
2. Pin the binding around the pouch with the right side of the binding against the right side of the pouch. Stitch with a 1 cm (or 3/8") seam allowance, leaving 5-6" of binding free at either end.
3. Finger press the ends of the binding back to make a crease where it should be joined.



4. Place the binding ends right sides together and stitch along the crease lines.



5. Trim the seam allowance to 1/4" and press it open. Finish sewing the binding to the pouch.
6. Trim around the pouch, if necessary so that the seam allowance is no more than 1 cm or 3/8".



7. Wrap the binding around to the wrong side of the pouch. Hand or machine sew the binding in place, sewing close to the fold.



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## Shaping the Pouch

1. Fold the pouch in half and crease to find the center. Fold the sides down along the center to make a point.

2. Draw a 1" line across the point.

3. Sew along the 1" line.

Repeat on the other side of the pouch.



## Attach the Zipper

1. Mark the center of the zipper on both zipper tapes, as well as the center of the pouch at the top on both sides

2. Open the zipper. Pin the right side of one zipper tape against the wrong side of the pouch. The zipper teeth should be even with the edge of the binding.

3. Sew along the length of the zipper tape, sewing right next to the binding on the front of the pouch and catching the zipper underneath.



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4. With the zipper still open, pin and attach the remaining zipper tape to the other side of the pouch in the same way.



## Finishing

Hand sew the sides of the pouch together for about 2", hiding the ends of the zipper. Sew a tack at the top of the stitching to stop the zipper.



Alternatively, machine stitch the sides of the pouch together using a zig zag stitch that catches both sides. Backstitch securely at the top to stop the zipper.



## Pocket Instructions

May be added to either the Handbag or the Pouch.

1. Fold the pocket in half and sew around the three sides, leaving about 2" open for turning.
2. Turn the pocket right side out and press flat. Topstitch along one long edge to make the top of the pocket.
3. Pin the pocket to the lining of either the Handbag or Pouch, as desired. Sew around the sides and bottom to secure.

