

## Quilted Beach Bag



### ***You will need:***

2 pieces of main fabric, lining and wadding 24" wide x 22" deep for the bag  
2 pieces of webbing 26" long for the handles

### ***Instructions:*** ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " seams unless otherwise stated)

#### *The bag:*

- Cut out the bag pieces and press the main pieces in preparation for quilting
- For a Double Diamond pattern, draw a line using erasable ink from the top left hand corner down to the bottom right hand corner
- Next draw more diagonal lines  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " apart either side of the original line until you cover it
- Making sure the wadding is flat, lay this piece of main fabric face up on top of it. Pin along the first line you drew
- Increase your stitch length and stitch the pieces together on that line
- Go back to the top of the row and stitch another line  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the right of the one you have just done
- Do the same with the rest of the diagonal lines
- Now draw a diagonal line from the top right hand corner to the bottom left hand corner, drawing more lines  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " apart from each other and follow the same process as before
- Repeat all of the above with the other main fabric and wadding
- Mark off a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square on the bottom corners and cut them out ready for boxing them
- With right sides together, pin along the bottom edge and stitch them together. Press the seam open

#### *The lining:*

- Put the lining pieces right sides together then mark off  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " squares at the bottom corners. Cut them out
- Pin the bottom edge together, leaving a large gap for turning to the right side, stitch them together then press the seam open

#### *Handles:*

- At the top of the quilted bag on the right side, mark a point  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " across from the side edge on both sides
- Place the webbing handles towards the middle from this point and stitch in place
- Repeat on the top of the other top edge

#### *Forming the bag:*

- Lay the quilted pieces out flat and face up with the handles at each end
- Put the lining right side down on top of the it
- Tuck the handles inside, pin these edges together and stitch
- Bring the quilted pieces together so the right sides are facing one another and the lining is likewise, ensuring they line up at the middle seam

- Pin and stitch the sides together. Press the seams open
- Box the corners by taking one corner and squashing it flat so that the side seam and bottom seams line up. Pin and stitch. Repeat on the other three corners
- Pull the bag through the gap in the lining to the right side. Pin the gap closed and stitch
- Push the lining down inside the bag and press.
- Using a longer stitch length, top stitch around the top of the bag

### **Alternatives:**

#### *Zip pocket on the outside:*

- Cut a piece of fabric and iron-on interfacing 13" wide x 23" long
- Iron the interfacing onto the wrong side of the pocket piece
- Mark 1" down from the top on the wrong side and draw a rectangle 11" across and ½" wide
- Place the pocket centrally 2½" down from the top of a main bag piece with right sides together. Pin around the rectangle and stitch the pieces together
- Cut through the centre of the rectangle and clip into the corners
- Push the pocket through the gap, straighten it out and press
- Position a 14" zip at the back of the gap so you can see it, making sure the zip pull is visible. Pin and stitch around the gap close to the edges to keep the zip in place
- To form the pocket, fold the fabric in half so the bottom edge meets the top edge of the pocket
- Pin around the edges and stitch together, making sure you don't stitch it to the bag

#### *Open pocket on the inside:*

- Cut a piece of fabric and iron-on interfacing 15" wide x 18" long
- Iron the interfacing onto the wrong side of the pocket piece, fold in half with right sides together, bringing the short edges together
- Pin around the open edges, leaving a gap for turning and stitch. Clip the corners
- Turn to the right side through the gap, press and top stitch across the folded edge
- Take one piece of lining and mark 5" down from the top. Position the pocket on this point. Pin around the sides and bottom and stitch closely around the edges, backstitching at the starting edges of the pocket. Stitch another row ¼" from the first
- To divide the pocket in two, stitch a line approximately 8" from one of the side edges

If you have an inside and outside pocket, make sure they are on opposite sides when you make up the bag

#### *Handles:*

2 pieces of main fabric 4" wide x 26" long; and 2 pieces of wadding 3" wide x 26" long

- Put the wadding in the centre on the wrong side of the fabric and press the edges over the wadding
- Fold in half with wrong sides together, pin the edges and stitch ¼" from the edge on both sides
- Repeat with the other handle
- Attach to the bag 6½" from the side edges as before

#### *Wadding:*

- Use two layers of calico instead of the wadding

#### *Quilting:*

Blue / white bag

- Increase the stitch length and stitch straight lines 1½" apart
- For more decoration, stitch wavy line (stitch 33 on my machine) in between the straight lines