

# Sharman's Sewing Centers

112A Johnston St.  
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[www.sharmanssewingcenter.com](http://www.sharmanssewingcenter.com)

Jan 2021 Sewing Club

## Bag Lady

*Bags are always a great gift for yourself or someone else. This class is going to cover several different techniques that can be put into any bag pattern you already have or in the instructions for this one. Always good to have variations and a bag is a great blank canvas for lots of different sewing techniques: embroidery, applique, quilt piecing and much more!!! Great time to be creative and work on your stash at the same time!!!*



### **Supplies Needed for this project:**

- ½ yd Outer Bag Fabric
- ½ yd Lining Fabric
- ¼ yd pocket for 1 pocket (1/2 yd for 2 pockets)
- 1 – 14” (or longer) zipper per pocket (these can be invisible or coil zipper)
- Collins™ Wonder Tape™ for Coil Zippers
- ½ yd Fusible Fleece or Sew Stable Batting
- Optional – ½ yd Pellon™ Fusible Grid on Point™

### **Outer Bag**

*The final cut of the outer bag will be 2 – 16” tall by 17” wide pieces. You will want to start working with a larger piece and cut down when you are thru quilting or adding any embellishments.*

You will want to add either Fusible Fleece or Sew Stable™ batting to the outer bag pieces to give the bag body. *Sew Stable™ is firmer and great if electronics, tablets, or computers are going to be carried in the bag.*

When adding one of the above to a fabric – quilting it is a great way to keep in place. You can skip this step – but it will give the bag a more detailed look.

There are several different quilting techniques that can be used:

- ♥ Free motion stippling over the piece
- ♥ Grid Quilting Options:
  - Draw quilting lines on the fabric with a removeable Fabric marker.
  - Draw the first lines and then use a Quilt Guide bar to make parallel quilting lines.
  - Fuse Pellon™ Fusible Grid on Point™ to the back side of the batting and stitch from the backside – using the lines as guide.
  - Stitch on lines that are in the print of the fabric.
- ♥ Patchwork – your outer piece can be patchworked – then you could stitch in the ditch or decorative stitch quilt.
- ♥ have fun – try something new!!!

Cut the Outer Bag to final size.

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## Adding a Double Pocket

This is a great technique – you will end up with a double pocket – with one of the pockets having a zipper for security.

If desired you can add pockets to both sides or just one.

- ♥ Cut Pocket fabric 8" x 26" for each pocket.
- ♥ Finish the edge of the short end either with a zig zag or serger.
- ♥ You have 2 zipper options – a centered seam with a coil zipper or a hidden zipper with an invisible zipper.

**Coil Zippers** – this makes up the bulk of zippers. The slider runs on two coils on each side. The “teeth” are the coils. Coil Zippers are made of polyester and are thus also known as polyester zippers. Nylon was formerly used and though only polyester is used now, the type is still known as a nylon zipper.

**Invisible Zipper** – the teeth in this zipper is behind the tape. The tapes color matches the garment's as does the slider, so that, except the slider, the zipper is “invisible”. It does take a special presser foot to insert correctly.

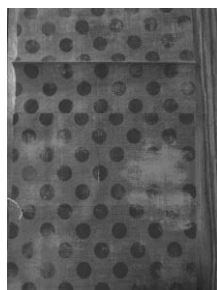
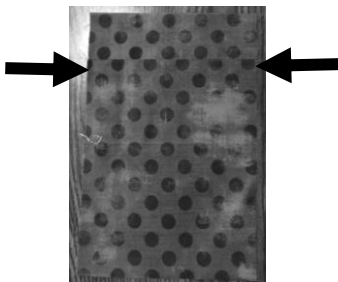
## For the Zipper Pocket:

1. Each Pocket is cut 8" x 26"
2. Zig zag or serger the short ends of the pocket fabric -this is where the zipper seam is going .

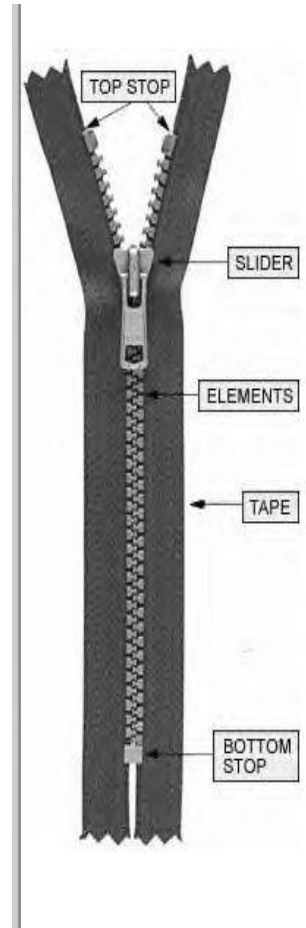
## Center Zipper

### Sewing Steps –

3. Right sides together – stitch a 5/8" seam – use a basting length to sew the short ends together.
4. Press seam open.
5. Your piece is now in a circle – decide how far down on pocket you want the zipper and press flat. Cut open the bottom fold – this will lay the fabric out flat to insert the zipper.



6. Place wonder tape in each side of the zipper – on the right side
7. Tape the right side of the zipper to the wrong side of the seam. Allow part of the zipper to “hang” off both ends of the fabric.



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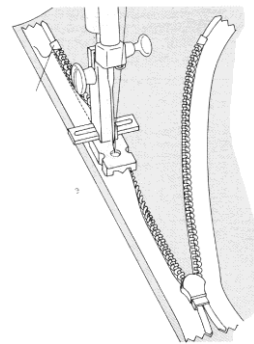
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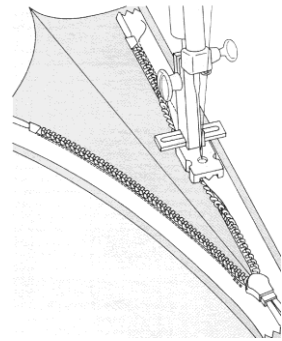
- Using a piece of ½" invisible (scotch) tape, tape down the center of the right side of the fabric – over the zipper area.
- Using a zipper foot, top stitch around the outer edge of the tape – this will help you sew straight around the zipper.
- Remove the tape. Remove the stitches from the zipper area.
- Move the zipper pull into the pocket area – stitch across the ends of the zipper area and cut off the excess.

## Invisible Zipper

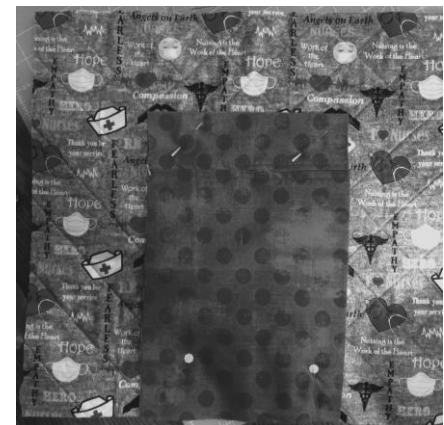
The invisible zipper, which has no rows on the outside of the garment, must be stitched with a special concealed or invisible zipper foot. Unlike regular zipper, the invisible zipper is stitched in before the seam is put in. **Must use an Invisible or Concealed Zipper Foot for this zipper.** The advantage of this zipper in the pocket is that is hidden for security.



- Place open zipper, face down, on the right side of garment – the teeth are coiled into the zipper – uncoil the teeth along seam edge. Stitch with zipper teeth under the zipper foot. Stitch as close to the teeth as possible backstitch when you get to the pull – with the invisible zipper foot – your needle will stay in center needle position.
- Press
- Now decide how far down you want the zipper and Press. You can cut the other side loose – this way you don't have to put the zipper in the circle.
- Pin the other side of the zipper to the other seam – again right sides together. Stitch along the edge of the teeth at seam line.  
Press  
Pull the zipper pull to the center and stitch across ends – trim off excess.



- ♥ Place pocket in the center of one of the Outer bag pieces – with the folded edge to the middle and the 2 cut edges matching along the edge.
- ♥ Using a Triple or 3-Step Zig Zag – zig zag the side and bottom edges to the outer bag. Leave the top edge open.
- ♥ Repeat on the other piece if have 2 pockets.



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## Handles

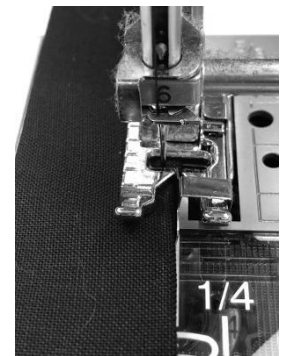
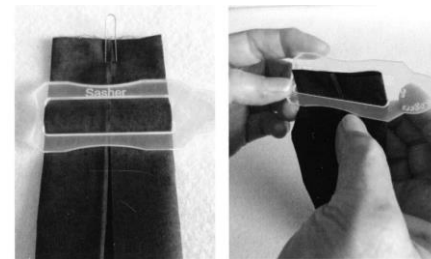
For this we are going to cover 3 different Handle Options. You may have different preference or sometimes the decision is what supplies you have available. It is always nice to know substitutions in a pinch.

For this project – we will need 2 – 48” pieces ( 2 2/3 yds total)

**Webbing** – Purchased 1” webbing is always a fast and easy choice; however, you can be limited by colors.

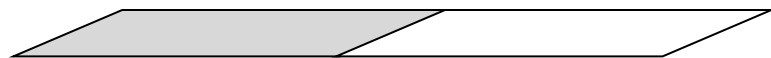
**Fabric** – *(this technique will keep you from having to sew and turn or add interfacing)*

- Cut 3 – 4”x wof strips.
- Stitch strips end to end. Press.
- Using a 2” Sasher tool – Press the strip with the sides folding in – this will make it 2” wide now.
- Using the 1” Sasher tool – now press in half – with the 2 folds touching each other.
- Your piece is now 4 layers thick with fabric – using an Edge Guide Presser foot – topstitch both edges of the strip to make your handle piece.



## Recycled Denim Handle –

- First you are going to need to cut one of the legs of the jeans loose from the other – get as close to the top, pocket and zipper as possible to get the most fabric out of it.
- Cut off the hem.
- The leg is still in the round – usually one seam is a flat felled seam, and one is regular – cut off the regular seam so that you can flatten the fabric out.
- Cut lengthwise – right beside the flat sell seam – cut 2” strips the length of the jeans on both the front and back side.
- Stitch the pieces end to end – use a diagonal seam not a straight seam. (this is fun to do with different shades of jeans and mix them together)
- For this you will need to hand press the raw edges to the middle back – none of the pressing tools handle the denim well.
- Cut 3 – 1 ½” x wof strips for backside of the handle. Sew end to end. Press.



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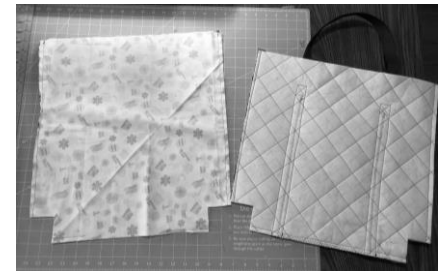
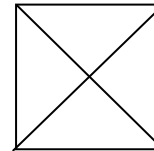
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- This strip can be pressed with the Clover's 3/4" Fusible Bias Tape Maker and Fusible Web.
- remove the fusible web paper backing and fuse to the backside or overlapping the folds of the denim.
- Using the Edge Guide foot – stitch right along the fold edge of the narrower piece. Stitch in both sides.



## Finishing the Bag

1. If the strap is one long piece – cut into 2 – 48" Pieces.
  2. On the Outer bag piece with the pocket – the handle will start at the bottom and you will stitch it down covering the raw wedge of the pocket. On the sample – the handle was stitch down 1" higher than the pocket and then that was reinforced stitch with an "X".
  3. Take the other end and repeat on the second side – the excess fabric will loop at the top for the handle.
  4. The other side of the outer bag will be stitched the same – if there is no pocket – just measure the piece you did and repeat the measurements to make the same.
  5. Place the outer bag pieces right sides together and stitch the sides and bottom seams.
  6. Place the lining pieces right sides together and stitch the sides and bottom seams – leave an opening for turning the middle of the bottom seam.
  7. At the lower edge of each the lining and the outer bag piece – cut out a 2" square.
  8. Open the bag pieces and match the edges you just cut and seam – there are 2 seams on each piece. This will miter the corners of the bag.
  9. Turning the lining right sides out and place inside the outer bag. Pin the top edges together – matching the side seams.
  10. Seam the top edges completely around.
  11. Turn the entire bag – right sides out thru the opening in the bottom of the lining.
  12. Stitch the opening closed
  13. Press the bag – because the lining is longer than the outer bag - it will come to the outside – giving you about a 1" decorative band at the top.
  14. If desire – you can use the Edge Guide Foot to Stitch-in-the-Ditch\* where the lining and the outer bag seam is.
- Enjoy!!!



*\*Stitch-In-The-Ditch is to stitch right in the seam line of another seam. This is used in garment sewing as well as quilting.*

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