

The Schlep Bag

Fabric needed: four (4) coordinating fabrics. Bottom = 15 1/2" and four (4) 8" squares from each of the remaining three (3) coordinating fabrics. Choose **additional** four (4) fabrics for the interior. Choose another fabric for the handles that coordinates with both sides. Cut two (2) 4 1/2" x 29" strips.

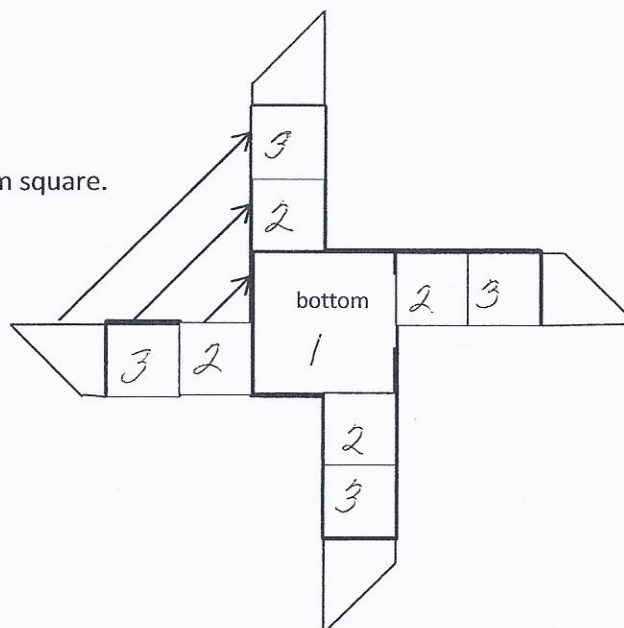
Cut three (3) 8" squares from each of three fabrics for the outside. Choose one of the fabrics for the top and mark the square in half diagonally and add 3/4", cut on 3/4" line.



Use the darkest fabric for the bottom and cut a 15 1/2" square.

Looking at the diagram sew the triangle to square 2 and square 2 to square 3. Make 4 sets.

Sew the completed set to each corner of the bottom square.



Referring to the diagram; begin at one side at the 2/1 intersection, sew the 2/1 -3/2 -4/3 together. Repeat for each segment. Be careful not to stretch top triangle. *It helps to pin at the intersections with the seam toward the triangle.*

Repeat for the inside bag.

On the wrong side of each bag, carefully mark 1" down from the edge. Fold the edge down to the 1" mark and press, be careful not to stretch the bias edges. This makes a 1/2" folded edge.

Insert one bag into the other, wrong sides together, matching up the triangle top folded edges. Pin together.

For the handles: cut two (2) strips 4 1/2" x 30". Cut 2 strips of cotton batting for the lining of the handles 2" x 29". Fold one fabric strip right side together and stitch a 1/4" seam along the long side. Turn right side out and press with seam at edge. Using your favorite method, pull one batting strip through. Stitch 1/2" from each long edge or down the center to anchor batting. Repeat for other handle strip.

Center ends of handles in middle of the half triangles and top stitch around the top of bag. Repeat approximately 1/4" from first row of stitching.



You can make this bag in any size, just change the size of the squares. And, adjust the size of the bottom to equal: size of square x 2 minus 1/2" ...i.e. 6" square x 2 = 12 minus 1/2" = 11 1/2" bottom.