

Gypsy Cross Body Bag.

(colorway in the pines)

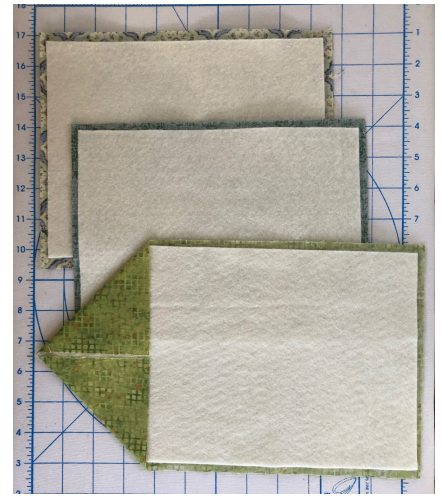
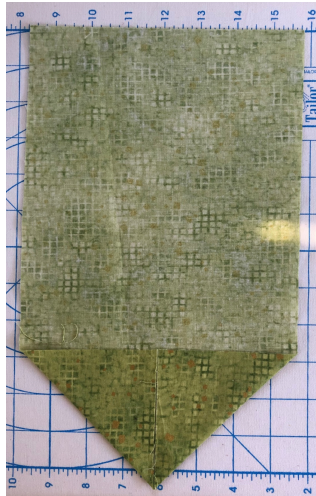
Materials: Gypsy Satchel Kit (available while supplies last on Etsy: AnnMyhreDesigns) and coordinating scraps of fabrics from home. Alternatively, use your own stash of fabrics, threads, yarns and beads.

Front and Back Inside Lining: cut two different whole pieces 7.5"x9.5" Fuse a Piece of 7x9 thin Batting to WS center of each leaving 1/4" around. (or use Fusible Fleece here). I used Alex's Powder Fuse and Orient Silk blend batting. OMG. Favorite new fusing method.

Outer Flap: in a monochromatic fabric with not too much pattern, cut one 7.5"x12.5" on one short end, fold in the corners to WS to meet in the middle. Press.

Cut a piece of batting 7"x12.5" – cut the excess corners (save pieces!) so that you can tuck it into the flap folds. Trim 1/4" off remaining long sides of batting. Fuse in place with fusible or powder.

Use these pieces as templates for the inner lining and outer front and back that you'll be patching together. NOTE: Save the scraps from these for outsides and strap!



Use the fabrics in the kits together with your own scraps to create pieced rectangles slightly larger than the 3 prepared pieces. These can be hand or machine pieced. You can use quilt blocks, strip piecing, crazy patch (shown), log cabin, wonky log cabin, or?? Press and Trim front and back pieces to 7.5"x9.5" (you know I'm going to tell you to save the scraps!) For the flap, fold the sides under as before fuse in place to hold. These pieces won't get batting.

Top edges of backs and fronts: choose a top side and fold under 1/4" for each of the four pieces. For the linings, the fold will be on the edge of the batting.

Flap: Place flap pieces RS together and stitch along the long sides, knotting each end. Leave the top and the flap point open. Turn right side out and press. Choose one short side of each of the front and back to be the top. Fold under 1/4" and press.

Front Side: Place the front lining and outside WS together and fold under the tops at 1/4" and stay stitch the top at 1/8" and again 1/4". Hand or machine stitch along all the rest of the raw edge seams. When stitching along raw edges, sew within the 1/4" seam allowance. Press.

Back Side: Open the pressed folds of the tops and center and sandwich the flap between the sides, all raw edges together, making sure that the plain side of the flap is opposite the plain lining of the bag. Pin and top stitch in place at 1/4" where the batting ends and along the fold. Open and Press sides together with flap outside. Top stitch along 1/8" and 1/4". Hand or machine stitch along all the seams. When stitching along raw edges, sew within the 1/4" seam allowance. Press.

Quilting the sides: You can hand or machine quilt the sides together at this point. I simply ran a ditchline in every seam. Big stitch, free motion, geometric quilt any pattern that enhances the piecing you did.

Straps/sides:

Cut two 9.5"x2" different fabrics, and 7.5"x2" third fabric. Sew short ends together with 7.5" piece in the middle. Stitch short ends together so that 7.5" piece is in the center. Press a 1.5" piece fusible fleece or fuse batting down center of WS of this strip. See photos below and watch description of how I sewed this outer side piece to the front and back. Basically, place RS one long edge of side piece to RS of front. Make sure 1/4" of the side strip extends out above the finished top edge of the front piece. Starting at top, stitch a 1/4" seam down side, stopping 1/4" before you get to the bottom. Knot off. Reorient the bag so the pieces lie flat and stitch along the bottom, 1/4" from the top and stopping 1/4" before the bottom of that seam. knot. Orient the bag so you can stitch the other long side, starting 1/4" from the bottom and making sure that 1/4" of the side piece extends over top of finished edges of front as before. Stitch down seam. Knot at top. Repeat for the back piece, making sure flap is always out of the way.



NOTE: the last seam of the side and back piece you may find it easier to start at the top and work down to the corner (see second photo left).

Then stitch a 50"x2.5" strap with pieces of scrap fabrics. Jelly rolls work great here. Trim the long edges so piece measures 2" wide. Sew short ends of strap to short ends of bag sides. No batting or extra fleece needed here.

Make a second strip to finish at 2"x74.5" – you can hand or machine stitch along sides of straps (I used size 8 perle cotton and worked a tight blanket stitch with RS seams folded under.) Then

hand stitch the side lining in place on inside of bag. To make the strap more stiff, stitch a few lines down the length of the handle, starting in the center and working out towards sides. 3-5 lines of stitching will add strength to the handle.

Watch the Gypsy Satchel videos on the Quilt As Inspired Youtube channel for ideas on how to adorn the flap of your new cross body bag!