

ONE YARD BAG ("Schlep Bag")

1. Fold fabric right sides together, selvages together.
2. Cut a 4-1/2 strip from the selvedge side (do not trim off selvedge!). This will give you two strips for handles.
3. To make handles: Press strip in half lengthwise. Open strip; press the two halves in towards the center of the strip; press again. Fold strip in half and topstitch around the whole strip. Repeat with other strip. Set aside.
4. With right sides of fabric together, sew around the outside edges of the bag fabric - leaving a 4-5" opening to be able to turn the bag right side out. (Don't sew folded edge, of course!) NOTE: If your fabric is directional, keep the opening near the top side of your bag. (Folded side on left; leave opening on right side near top.)
5. Turn bag right side out. Press.
6. Top-stitch opening closed. This part will be hidden as it becomes the lining of the bag.
7. Now stuff the top half of the fabric into the bottom half, creating lining for the bag and a fold at the top. Press again.
8. Fold top down towards the outside approximately 1-1/2" or so. Press.
9. Insert bag handles: Insert end of one strip under the folded top - 4" in from left side of bag and pin in place. Insert other end of strip under folded top - 4" from right side of bag and pin in place. (Strips are now facing downward towards bottom of bag.) Now lift each side of handle so the handle is above the bag and two strip ends are over the top of the folded top of bag - pin each side in place.
10. Repeat procedure for the handle on the other side of the bag.
11. Now topstitch around the top and bottom of the folded edge. This will also secure the strips in place. You may wish to use a decorative stitch for this step.
12. Embellish if you want ... add buttons, closures, key fobs, etc.

The "Hotdog" Pillowcase Method ("Frankfurter Pillowcase")

The word "frankfurter" comes from Frankfurt, Germany, where pork sausages similar to hotdogs originated. These sausages, Frankfurter Wurstchen, were known since the 13th century and given to people on the event of imperial coronations, starting with the coronation of Maximilian II, Holy Roman Emperor, as King.

Materials needed: 3/4 yard Focus Fabric, one 2" strip for Accent Border, and 1/3 yard for Wide Border

Cut the focus fabric into a 26" by width of fabric rectangle. If focus fabric is directional or border striped, you should cut it into two 26"x 22" rectangles, then flip one piece so that the print runs the same way on both sides. Sew rectangles together along the 26" side.

Cut one 2" strip from the accent fabric. Cut one 10" strip from the wide border fabric. Iron each strip in half, wrong sides together.

Open border strip and place right side up on table. Place accent strip (still folded) on top of border flap, matching raw edges along the edge closes to you. Place focus fabric on top of other two pieces, right side down, matching longest edge of focus fabric with the raw edges of the other two. Roll the edge of the focus fabric farthest away from you toward you, all the way, and then fold over the other side of border flap so that all the raw edges are together; pin. There you have your "hotdog" rolled up!

Sew along the raw edges using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Remove pins; hold one end of the tube at the seam. Reach in and pull out the focus fabric, turning everything right sides out in the process.

Iron, then fold and pin wrong sides together. Sew a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam along the two unfinished sides of the pillowcase. Turn inside out, and iron again. Now sew a generous $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Turn pillowcase right side out again, iron, and enjoy!